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WORDS OF ADVICE

TO

YOUNG NAVAL OFFICERS.

WEBB AND HUNT, PRINTERS, LIVERPOOL.

WORDS OF ADVICE

TO

YOUNG NAVAL OFFICERS.

BY

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LIVERPOOL:

WEBB & HUNT, 9 CASTLE STREET.

1864.

Dedicated, by Permission,

TO

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SOMERSET, K.G.

FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY, ETC., ETC.,

BY

HIS VERY OBEDIENT HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

THOUGH it is now upwards of thirty years since I first joined the Royal Navy, I remember well the conflicting feelings and various temptations by which I was then assailed; and it has occurred to me that experiences which have been ofttimes dearly bought might prove useful to those who, like myself, enter the world from the home-side of their parents.

Gathered from my own experience, from the example of others, and partially gleaned from some MSS. found amongst papers which belonged to my father—who himself had been half a century in the naval service of his country—I have put together these "Words of Advice," trusting they may prove beneficial to the youthful aspirants for naval honours now serving on board the *Britannia* and other ships in H.M. Navy. Several works exist which have for their object nautical instruction, both practical and

theoretical; yet I know of none which aims at the moral guidance of our young officers. I am therefore encouraged in the hope that some amongst these "Words" may practically deserve the eulogium of the wise king, who declared

"A word spoken in due season, how good is it!"

H.M.S. MAJESTIC,
ROCK FERRY, *December* 1863.

WORDS OF ADVICE

TO

YOUNG NAVAL OFFICERS.

I.

FEW boys, I believe, are sent to sea against their inclination. Most high-spirited lads have a desire for boating and aquatic sports, which in many cases gives them the first inclination for a seafaring life.

I address myself principally to those who have been left to choose their own profession, for it is those only who will go with me heartily enough to derive benefit from my hints on subjects so closely connected with the navy, and it is to them I desire to point out the road by which they must strive to climb the ladder of fame to those heights occupied now by the most distinguished of their profession. Should they fail to reach as lofty a station, they may nevertheless earn for themselves a reputation for

zeal, honesty, and unswerving integrity, not the less to be coveted because carrying with it none of the anxieties or responsibilities of high position.

Your first entrance, my young friends, into the world, where trials and difficulties will beset you on every side, while few of the moral restraints of school or home remain, must not be lightly considered; nor must you imagine (as so many do) that the fact of being able to style yourself a Queen's officer entitles you to all the privileges of manhood, as regards demeanour, habits, and general bearing in conversation.

Remember that you have chosen a profession where all will depend upon yourself; that while, on the one hand, a wide opening is given you to select a path leading to fame, yet on the other you will be surrounded by many allurements, calculated to tempt your passions, and mislead your judgment. Let me, therefore, entreat you to make early choice as to your rule of life; and, until your judgment is more mature, seek to follow the example of one of your seniors, whose deportment, manner, and general tone of conversation are what your own good taste would point out as the individual you should most prefer to introduce amongst your family circle, and see on

terms of friendship with your mother and sisters. This you will find for the most part an unerring moral test in the choice of a first companion; or, if of a rank above this position, for your daily example.

But perhaps these "Words" may fall into the hands of some before they have left home for the first time, and while their thoughts are still dwelling on the painful parting now approaching, when they must lose sight for years of those with whom they are connected by all the natural ties of kindred association,—from those parents whose tender affection has supplied their boyish wants, from those brothers and sisters who have been the kind and disinterested partakers of all their past amusements. If such be your individual case, you will now have to struggle for yourself amongst strangers, who will not feel the same regard for your everyday welfare, and I therefore propose to set before you a faithful picture of your future society, that you may guard against those errors with which, in common with every human institution, it is unavoidably associated.

First, let me counsel you to erect an impregnable barrier around your own virtue, and acquire a love of those noble dispositions with which it is also largely adorned. You will naturally feel much

regret at parting from those who are most dear to you, nor would I deprecate such a feeling; but it is now that the trial commences of that fortitude which must sustain you under every future reverse of fortune,—arming you with patience in adversity, with moderation in prosperity, and with undeviating rectitude at all times. Probably now, for the first time, you are put to the test: let your mind, then, repose upon the prospect of the honourable station in life for which you are going to prepare yourself, and, by looking into futurity, anticipate the period when you will revisit those dear relatives, improved in understanding and in manliness of character; and from the moment of your separation never lose sight of the reflection which may thus console and support you under it.

The novelty which will lie in your way to your ship will be amusing, and instructive if you make a proper use of it; and remember that there is nothing which comes under your observation so unimportant but may be turned to account.

II.

You have joined your ship, you have had perhaps a few kind words of encouragement from your captain; and the senior lieutenant may have found leisure to be able just to recognise you as the "new youngster," and perhaps has told one of your messmates to take you below to the berth or gunroom, and you consider yourself now fairly entered on board; but beware how you hastily form an intimacy with any one.

The different habits of life which in every respect it will have become your duty to adopt, cannot yet enter into your contemplation; you will be best inured to *that* knowledge by experience.

On introduction to your companions you must be cautious how you form acquaintance with them; and should there unfortunately be amongst them any of whose general demeanour you disapprove, whose language or whose actions would be deemed ungentlemanly in the family you have left, I advise you to avoid intimacy with them: be especially on

your guard against those, old or young, who may endeavour to insinuate themselves into your good graces by flattery or too forward indications of desire to serve you. Prefer rather the upright and blunt disclosure of *his* sentiments who neither seeks nor shuns your friendship, until he knows whether you are deserving of his own. With him, although you may not entirely agree, mutual respect, esteem, and good offices will reciprocally follow; while, if you are flattered and attracted by the former, the sudden intimacy will probably terminate in your being misled in a dereliction of your duty, in being cajoled out of your money, or involved in excesses prejudicial to your health and peace of mind; and, afterwards, perhaps sneeringly deserted. Such, I assure you, is not an overcharged representation of the consequences of forming an early and indiscreet acquaintance; I have been too often a witness to it, and know that few things may have a greater influence upon your future character, than the disposition of the first person with whom you may form an intimacy.

Instead, therefore, of commencing your career by making those friendships to which young people are so very prone, direct your attention at once to

the duties of your new situation; they will comprehend a variety of interesting and amusing occupations; and when you are observed to be inquisitive after such appropriate pursuits, those who are as commendably employed, those who from exemplary and virtuous conduct are worth knowing, will esteem it as an honour to be of your acquaintance.

I do not give you the advice of Horace, who said—

> "Wise were the kings who never chose a friend,
> Till, with full cups, they had unmask'd his soul
> And seen the bottom of his deepest thoughts;"

but I counsel you earnestly to weigh well *your* choice, and remember that "real friendship is a slow grower, and never thrives unless engrafted upon a stock of known and reciprocal merit."

III.

And now let me give you a word of caution regarding frugality in small expenses—dress, linen, mess, and daily disbursements; for although it is not proper, nor is it customary, that you should have charge of the entire sum deposited for your current expenses, you will from time to time be furnished with small proportions for your mess, and various little articles of daily consumption; and as you thus commence a system of expenditure, the manner in which you conduct it may have such an influence upon your future pecuniary affairs, as to occasion your ultimately becoming a poor or an independent man.

I am far from wishing you to begin by being penurious, and only desire you to be careful, that when proper opportunities occur, you may be generous and charitable. I particularly enjoin that, in the first instance, you pay the entrance-money to your mess immediately you are received on board,

and that, at the stated periods, you pay the regular subscriptions, by which practice you will preserve an independence of mind, and be exempt from uneasy thoughts, which frequently drive prodigal boys, as well as men, into desperate and wicked courses.

It is a beginning in the trifling articles of soap, brushes, combs, blacking, &c., which in a midshipman establishes the rudiments of a methodical management of his expenses :—washing, stationery, keeping up his stock of clothing, amusements on shore, are expenditures of heavier amount, but if you once get into a regular habit in that minor department, it will follow in your more extensive purchases.

You should keep a book to insert every item that you receive and pay; you should always send a washing bill with your linen, keeping a duplicate to examine it by when returned from the laundress; you should keep your chest constantly locked, and you must never leave any article of dress, soap, brushes, towels, &c., lying about, but after they have been used, deposit them safely under lock and key.

Despising the foolish vanity of superfluous cloth-

ing, and the ridiculous character of a dandy, you yet should always endeavour to be as neat and clean in your dress as your position and the circumstances of your duty will permit, nay, to be even smart and particular in that respect will be creditable rather than otherwise.

Cleanliness is so essentially conducive to the individual and general health of those confined within the narrow limits of a ship, that it cannot be too rigidly or minutely exacted by the officers, from whom a proper example should proceed, in that respect, as well as in every other.

> "Even from the body's purity, the mind
> Receives a secret sympathetic aid."

You have now made the acquaintance of your messmates, and probably the first day of your going on board have not been required to perform any duty, but on the following morning you will doubtless be called upon to take some part in the employments of the officers—you are yet too young, and have not been sufficiently exercised to ascertain the extent of your own mental powers, but the instant that you are placed upon the quarter-deck of a man-of-war they must be brought into play, and opened out to embrace every new object which may

present itself, the most insignificant and those of the greatest magnitude.

From the moment you become enrolled in the service of your country, and subject to the discipline which it has prescribed, that country demands the utmost exertion of your best faculties, and they should be directed to such points as will best facilitate that just knowledge of your profession, which will enable you to serve it with the greatest efficacy.

You are no longer a solitary individual, but a link in the great chain of national defence, a being training up to those principles of independent loyalty which surround the throne, to assert and maintain the just rights and authority of your Sovereign, to support her legitimate Government, and to protect the peace, security, and prosperity of all your fellow-creatures who people the empire. Do not think, then, that, even as a midshipman, your position is unimportant, though it is necessarily subordinate to many higher authorities.

In proportion as you feel impressed with this consideration, you will become a zealous or an ordinary officer. Alacrity signifies a vigilant alertness in receiving the orders of your superiors, celerity in executing them, a punctual and correct repetition if

ordered to transmit them, and it is this that will single you out in the first instance to the eye of your commanding officer.

In the ordinary and extraordinary routine of your duties, incentives to emulation will be perpetually presented, but I do not wish to inspire you with meritorious feeling for the sake of mere competition, the attempt to step before a messmate for the purpose of getting the better of him, being most unbecoming. Aim rather at excellence from a nobler motive, an earnest aspiration after superiority for its own sake, not from a selfish and invidious desire of distinction at the expense of another.

As you advance in rank and experience, emergencies may arise when the good of the service would require you to push before a brother officer, but they are rare, and rather to be avoided than courted. At the same time I by no means intend that you should repress or restrain the fair and open advantage which your superior assiduity or abilities may give you over others, for you must always bear in mind that the talents you possess are a trust from the Almighty, to be used for such good purposes as His Providence may afford you, and not to be either hidden under a bushel, or abused for unworthy purposes.

IV.

WHEN first introduced on board your ship, you were probably presented to your captain. To his protection, therefore, you must now consider yourself transferred, as to a second father; and so long as you continue to deserve it, he will deem it his duty to watch over your interests with becoming care.

You will doubtless observe that he is looked up to as the head of all around you; you will see officers of sense, experience, and reputation, who have faithfully served their country many years, punctually obeying and actively executing his orders; constantly observing with respectful deference and attention whatever he may think necessary to direct for the benefit of the public service. It will, therefore, be very evident that a lad like yourself, with everything to learn, must also study to respect and obey him implicitly, not only from a desire to ingratiate yourself or court his peculiar favour, but

because it is your duty to do so in order to support that station, the obligation of which it will be incumbent on you to fulfil, at the same time justly to deserve his approbation by your merit and general good conduct; the adoption of this course will be a source of constant satisfaction to yourself, and may, by securing your captain's esteem, considerably advance your future prosperity in life.

With the other superior officers your intercourse, both of duty and in society, will be more immediate; and from the commander or senior lieutenant you will receive all the indulgence which you may deserve. He is the official instrument of the captain's orders, the authorised executive channel through which every regulation flows, the watchful observer of all around him, the indirect rewarder of merit, the rectifier of inadvertency, the correcter of negligence, disobedience, or depravity, the protector of the weak, the supporter of the good and the terror of the bad.

From him you will receive continued orders, perhaps delivered frequently in a hurried or inarticulate tone, but you must accustom yourself to catch the meaning from the usual manner of the executive in similar cases, to comprehend without repetition; and

should it be necessary to request explanation, to do it in a prompt, respectful manner, never exhibiting the slightest symptoms of indifference, petulance, or carelessness in the execution of your duty; if you do, the unfavourable opinion of your superiors will assuredly follow.

With your messmates always maintain a frank, cheerful, and independent openness of demeanour, carefully abstaining from being a party to any cabal, from any wrangling or profane and idle language or occupation, and especially from anything approaching to immoral habits. Without improper familiarity, be affable, courteous, and disposed to do kind offices to all; but never engage yourself to any assistance of moment,—particularly of a pecuniary nature,—without first considering whether you possess the means of fulfilling it, and if you do, whether it is right to use them or not.

Never enter into any conversation reflecting upon your superiors; such language (independently of its being by the Articles of War liable to severe punishment) is dangerous and unprofitable, calculated to produce dissatisfaction, sour the best tempers, and substitute discontent and mischief in the place of harmony and cordiality.

Should you ever be accidentally present at the discussion of such topics, if it be possible immediately withdraw; but if you cannot absent yourself, or conscientiously defend your superiors, remain silent.

Towards the seamen—the only class subordinate to you—I strictly enjoin an appropriate demeanour. From superiors you will receive the tone which restrains and governs you, but with inferiors you must stand upon some degree of self-importance.

In the first place, you must remember that you are only a boy, having everything to learn, for a time merely repeating orders, the meaning of which you scarcely comprehend,—that many of the older seamen, to whom you may be ordered to address yourself, have served their country long and faithfully—perhaps in battle, and certainly in many a tempest,—and that a true British seaman of unblemished conduct, though undecorated by the external appendages of rank, is in reality one of the most valuable characters amongst your countrymen.

He bears with patience, and even cheerfulness, peril, privation, and hardships, at which the luxurious landsman would shudder with dismay.

Amidst perpetual watchings, disease, toil, hunger, and thirst, alike to him are the midnight surges which echo upon his ear from the breakers of a lee-shore, or the wafted odours of an Indian gale. His duty is his sole object. Patient, orderly, and submissive, his life is spent in battling with the elements; and after long years of this elemental strife, which has battered his manly frame, wrinkled his swarthy cheek, and depressed his hollow eye, he sinks, perhaps, into silent oblivion, unknown to that country which he has striven to defend from dishonour, his body is committed to the deep, and unfathomable waters are his tomb,—but his merits are recorded elsewhere.—Never, then, approach such a man without recollecting what is due to him; convey your orders in an affable and friendly tone; he, in his turn, will esteem and respect you, and feel a pride and pleasure in affording instruction in knotting, splicing, steering, and many other minor sailor-like accomplishments, which no class can more thoroughly instil into your hitherto uninitiated mind. But while receiving this instruction, you must never forget that you belong to the quarter-deck, and never descend to nor permit the smallest undue familiarity.

I would recommend you to habituate yourself to regard the seamen as humble and dependent friends, by their situation excluded from most of the advantages of knowledge and education which you possess, but who, in every time of danger, are the first to rush forward, and, amidst the fury of the gale, the havoc of artillery, and the peril of shipwreck, are ever ready to expose themselves for a good officer, to protect *his* person, shield *his* honour, and exalt *his* name in the records of his country's glory.

Nor must you be led away by the idea that they are universally men of extravagant or dissolute habits. You will find many of them discerning, temperate, and sagacious, uniformly regular and exemplary in their conduct, and who would scorn to transgress their duty, with as much firmness as the most high-minded and well-educated gentlemen; whilst the many instances of filial piety, in allotting great part of their pay to their parents, should afford you a high opinion of their generosity and sense of natural affection. Never, then, address them with contumelious epithets, nor in any way abuse your authority over them.

Truly the foregoing is the bright side of their

character, for sailors have by nature some imperfections; but there is a pledge between every honourable officer and his country, that he will govern those under him with care and protecting humanity, affording them the constant guidance of his superior intelligence and example, and never exercising the sterner authorities of discipline but with undeviating regard to justice and mercy.

It is the officer's duty to feel for and supply the deficiencies of his men, to recollect that many of their faults and failings are the unavoidable result of ignorance and long habit, and to consider that, if their prejudices are not, in any material instance, derogatory to the good of the service, they should meet with benevolent toleration, although every encroachment beyond the boundaries of respect and obedience should be visited with prompt correction. In short, to all classes endeavour to maintain a demeanour full of mildness, suavity, and conciliation, and you cannot fail to be loved and respected. You will be obeyed from affection and confidence, and in trying moments will feel a security of command which will triumph over apparently insurmountable difficulties. By avoiding harsh, passionate, and flippant behaviour, you will

insure the respect of superiors, equals, and inferiors, and the tranquil approbation of your own mind.

Prompt confidence in your own powers will in due time develop itself; and when you become an officer of some standing, and holding a superior position, freely communicate with those immediately under you; and thus, while admitting them to that respectful confidence which will endear you to them, you will learn much of their character and abilities. So, whenever the time may arrive that you may have to conduct them into battle against your country's foe, whether the force be an inferior or superior one, you will nevertheless feel that firmness, serenity, and perfect collectedness, which cannot fail (whatever may be the result) to obtain for yourself as much honour and distinction as the opportunity could possibly afford.

V.

THERE are theoretical as well as practical studies to which it will be your duty to devote yourself at proper seasons. In a ship which bears a naval instructor, certain periods in the day will be set apart, and a place in the ship appropriated, for quietly prosecuting this very necessary part of your education.

It is now required that a boy, upon receiving his nomination to a naval cadetship, should serve one year on board a training ship—and there he will receive his first instructions in a seaman's accomplishments—but he will afterwards find on board every ship he may join as a youngster, advantages for continuing this course of education, which were formerly quite unknown in the service; not uncommonly the captain's dining-cabin is turned into a schoolroom during the forenoon, and I know one captain who took such a lively interest in the school progress of his midshipmen, that he superintended their education himself, instituted monthly examinations, and

by keeping in his cabin a framed list of the order of priority dependent upon this test, gave birth to a spirit of emulation which was productive of the best results.*

I strongly urge upon you not to allow this golden opportunity to pass by, or you will surely regret it in later years—and remember, also, that the same leisure for prosecuting these studies will not be afforded to you when your age and capabilities demand your services as an active executive officer in the ship.

To those studies which it will be the duty of the naval instructor to superintend and direct, I need only make casual allusion, as it is his duty to enforce an attention to them, if not willingly accorded, and the necessity of preparing yourself for examination to pass for the higher grades of your profession will prove stimulus sufficient to insure a desire to become a proficient in them: these studies are mathematics, navigation, and astronomy.

The science of mathematics is essential to the understanding of the theory of navigation; and a knowledge of the names, positions, and movements of the heavenly bodies is requisite to become an ob-

* The present Commodore Controller of the Coast Guard.

server,—an obligation upon all who desire to conduct a vessel across the ocean by other methods than that usually denominated dead-reckoning.

It will be your duty to derive as much information from those appointed for that purpose, and acquire as much knowledge as your health and opportunities may permit.

Your future distinction may perhaps solely arise from the acquisition of superior attainments in the various branches of intelligence connected with your profession, and though interest, or fortuitous circumstances, may contribute to your early promotion, it will be highly commendable in you to strengthen, to enlarge, and embellish your mind with those endowments which constitute the scientific officer in public, and the accomplished gentleman in private life. But there are other branches of knowledge and education which, though not a part of the naval instructor's duty to teach, are nevertheless of importance to acquire, and I shall enumerate them thus—gunnery, geography, history, mechanics, naval architecture, languages, commerce, and an outline of the politics of Europe, especially of your own country.

Before, however, I touch upon those studies to

which I have here alluded, it may be well to say a few words on attainment and proficiency in that active portion of your profession which is called seamanship, and as there are now many excellent works on this subject, which makes this task lighter than in former days, (when everything had to be learnt by diligent inquiry,) you will find ready to your hand, and supplied to every ship by the Admiralty, several which I can strongly recommend.*

Seamanship, simply considered, is much undervalued by young officers, but it is the foundation of that comprehensive intelligence which consolidates all the valuable materials for forming a good officer.

You cannot be a thorough seaman until you know every minute and complicated part of the machine which you navigate, the entire principles of rigging and working a ship, and the practical phrases in your own, and, as far as possible, in foreign languages, especially in French. Until you are a navigator, an astronomer, have some knowledge of fortification, of the use and nature of artillery, of the theory of steam and the steam-engine, and of the geographical situation of the continents,

* "Glascock's Naval Officer's Manual;" "Dana's Seaman's Manual;" "Nare's do.," &c.

seas, gulfs, rivers, harbours, islands, especially those it may be your duty to visit,—until you know something of the history and practice of the celebrated seamen of former times, especially those of your own country, such as Blake, Cook, Nelson, Collingwood, and others,—until you can accurately observe the celestial bodies, are acquainted with the phenomena of the tides, and the mathematical delineations of angles, circles, sines, secants, and tangents,—with moral and social institutions, as they relate to personal and civil rights, as well as to public systems of political and military jurisprudence, and with that code of discipline by which your professional views and conduct must be entirely regulated;—I say, until all this is acquired, you must not hope for the title of a thorough seaman and an intelligent officer, for this is seamanship in its most comprehensive signification.

The first rudiments you will acquire by your own observation, by questioning the seniors amongst your messmates, or quarter-masters and old seamen, whenever any evolution is performed of weighing anchor, making or shortening sail, tacking, wearing, lying to, and mooring, or refitting the ship aloft; all these include practical seamanship. Theory must

be acquired by study and application under the naval instructor, and from the lieutenants, master, boatswain, gunner, and carpenter; and you need have no fear, if you behave respectfully to your superiors, and with civility and good nature to the warrant officers, that they will not readily impart to you information in their several departments of rigging, gunnery, and ship-building.

VI.

A THOROUGH knowledge of navigation will enable you to conduct a ship with safety to any part of the globe. Astronomy will be your principal assistant; geography will shew you beforehand the position of the place you are about to visit. History will inform you of such transactions as have previously happened there, and the knowledge of languages will enable you to converse with the natives, and particularly to ascertain if what you have read of their history be true.

In the remote regions to which you may sail you will see fortifications, artillery, and vessels of various constructions and adapted to peculiar properties of local situation or climate. For example, the Esquimaux in Greenland, puts forth his slight skin-covered kai-yák in a troubled sea, amongst the ice, to search for the walrus and seal; the lower half of his body is ensconced in this water-tight skiff, the upper part is enveloped in what they term a watry-

pouk, or frock made of sealskin, which, drawing tightly round his face and wrists, and a rim of bone which surrounds the small aperture to the interior of the boat, entirely excludes the water; and thus he passes through the waves, and often exhibits a skill in the management of his tiny craft which is surprising to the most expert boatmen.*

The Norwegian launches from behind his rocks, and braves a stormy sea in a little yawl fastened together with wooden pegs. The islanders of the Pacific guide with incredible velocity their cane-built proas, half immersed in water, and the Coromandel pilot is perpetually overwhelmed in his flexible Massulah boat ere he can pass the tremendous surf which perpetually roars upon his coast.

From a knowledge of the construction and properties of your own vessel, you will be enabled to form an opinion of the inferior or better qualities of the respective deviations you may meet with. For instance :—the Dutch (once the second, and vigorously disputing to be the first, maritime power in Europe) have made the slowest advances in the modern improvements of naval architecture. If you ask why,

* I have seen them roll their boat over and over four or five successive times by the skilful use of their double paddle.

the answer is,—because they are under local disadvantages, and their commerce and naval celebrity have been on the decline for more than a century; their harbours are shallow, and only reached through intricate channels; consequently their vessels, both of war and trade, are necessarily short, flat, and bulky, easily worked, but devoid of velocity in progressive sailing. In some measure they owe their decline to the nautical enterprise and commanding resources of Great Britain, France, America, and Russia; *these* present a different picture—they are states advancing in naval strength; the two former, perhaps, as nearly brought to the perfection of maritime grandeur as it is possible to approach.

You ask, why this difference? and I answer they are empires in the pride and zenith of their power, still struggling to compete with each other, courting every improvement, and possessing resources of which other nations are devoid. It would lead me into too long a discussion to elucidate this last assertion, I merely glance at these instances in order to lay before you a mode of exercising your own mind by applying to its spontaneous suggestions the terms "why" and "wherefore."

But to return,—Geometry and trigonometry will enable you with practical precision to ascertain the elevation of distant or contiguous objects, the width of channels, the dimensions of fortified outworks, the most secure methods of approaching, attacking, carrying or retiring from hostile batteries, and to penetrate with accurate demonstration a variety of physical operations peculiar to the element upon which you are destined to voyage and spend much of your life, of which too many around you will be entirely ignorant and indisposed to be otherwise.

A general insight into political and moral institutions, especially those of your own country, will induce you to examine the fabrics of foreign jurisdiction. An acquaintance with the admirable and liberal constitution under which it is your good fortune to have been born, will enlarge your discrimination upon the subject, and enable you to form perspicuous comparisons with others, to ascertain whether their inhabitants are more free than your own countrymen,—whether the government is more consolidated, and its vast and complicated machinery better conducted than at home,—whether the mass of the people are more ingenuous, honest, discreet, moral, or benevolent, or, on the contrary, more

proud, profligate, disorderly, or voluptuous, more reserved and sincere in their manners and address, or more insinuating and agreeable.

For example, on a slight superficial survey of national characteristics, you will suppose the Frenchman to be frivolous, loquacious, and insincere; the Spaniard, grave, haughty, and vindictive; the German, wrapt in silent, phlegmatic thought; the Portuguese, acute, hardy, active; the Dutchman, boorish, avaricious, but nevertheless hospitable; the Swede, open, honest, simple; the Dane, steady and temperate; the Pole, active, fierce, and high-minded; the Russian, sturdy, and too often cruel and oppressive; the Italian, subtle and sanguinary; the Turk, courageous, sedate, and sensual; the native of India superstitious and simple; while you will remark, in comparison, that your own countrymen are reserved, enterprising, industrious, candid, and sincere. Though our Scot may be termed cautious, yet he is faithful and enduring; and those from the Green Isle, whilst spoken of as gay, thoughtless, and volatile, are yet everywhere famed for their courage and gallantry. But such general classification can by no means include any whole population. It may indicate the prevalent feature,

though birth, education, and circumstances, produce amongst the same people gradations of character as infinitely various as their stature and physiognomy.

It is essentially necessary that you should understand the principles of naval architecture, not only for the purpose of fixing in your memory a nomenclature of the various parts which form the construction of a ship, but also to know their utility and application.

Almost daily, fresh ideas are being started as to the manner and the material of which our ships should be built, to withstand the impacts of the new and powerful artillery now introduced into our own service and that of every other maritime power; and I should recommend, when you are on shore, instead of spending your time in idle or uninstructive pursuits, to visit those dock-yards and arsenals to which your uniform will obtain you admittance.

Besides the advantageous information you may obtain there, it will prove a more amusing spectacle to witness the busy scenes of docking, repairing, undocking, and trying ships and engines, than the listless monotony of a crowd, or the semi-gambling performances of billiard-players. Nothing can be more gratifying to an intelligent mind than the

arrangements and despatch of the multifarious branches of mechanical skill progressing in our great ports. You may there inspect the manufacture of nearly every article belonging to your ship—ropes, sails, anchors, cables, blocks, masts, yards, rudders, oars, boats, and in many of them the repair and manufacture of steam-engines. You will see vessels of every dimensions, from a lighter to a screw line-of-battle ship, all in various stages of progress:—Here the iron or wooden keel, for a first-rate, just laid on the blocks; there the gradual elevation of the timbers or iron ribs; and in another place the final completion of planking, or plating, decking, fitting, and painting. You will probably find in one part of the yard huge and powerful hydraulic engines, employed in moulding the heavy iron plates which now constitute the defence of our iron-sides:—You will be deafened in another place by the sounds of the hammer of the boiler-maker; and in the fitting shop you will be able to see the more delicate parts of a steam-engine being adapted from the rough castings sent in from the foundry. Besides all these, there are storehouses filled with cordage, and all the apparatus of a ship's furniture constantly consuming; the various

offices also for conducting the detail of business; its method and celerity, with a variety of other objects, which will give you a comprehensive idea of the magnitude of naval affairs, of their importance to your country, and of the enormous expense attending its marine establishment. An acquaintance with these objects will give you great superiority over those young gentlemen whose chief delight is in parading the streets, or seeking idle society.

VII.

To enter into any abstruse details with regard to gunnery would require more space than I consider necessary here to devote to it; and as you are sure to find an intelligent gunner and gunnery instructors in every ship, whose principal duty is to instruct in this science, I shall only advise you to lose no opportunity of becoming a proficient in that art. Proficiency, however, does not simply imply ability to work a gun with rapidity and precision; for there is a scientific knowledge which every officer should possess above that required of the seaman—to understand the theory of projectiles, to be able to compute ranges, to dispart guns, to estimate the bursting charges for shells, and the length of fuse for time ranges, besides many minor details of theory; these, and a more complicated form of practice, which is essential for calculating the angles in concentrating broadsides, are to be learned best from the gunner or a gunnery-lieutenant.

To exhibit to you here a demonstration of the pressure of fluids on the surface of immersed bodies,—of the different modifications of that pressure in suction, acceleration, or resistance,—of its relation to diversification of curved or rectilinear forms,—would be premature, and beyond your present comprehension; such abstract investigation must be reserved for your maturer intellect, as well as the whole combined operation of the atmospheric and floating pressure upon the hull, masts, yards, and sails of a ship, in every situation of evolution, sailing, steaming, or unmanageable recumbency, when rudder, screw, sails, or skill, are of no avail. But an acquaintance with this branch of nautical science will explain to you many daily phenomena, entirely hidden from the mere practical seaman, and will enable you to act in many emergencies, for which *he* would be utterly incapable to provide any remedy. Yet, as the most efficient mode of acquiring and retaining knowledge depends upon initiation into its elementary principles, the study of mechanics, which you will see daily illustrated in the tackle, handspike, winch, capstan, &c., should precede that of naval architecture.

In a ship of any description may be found in

daily, nay hourly use, all the grand principles of mechanics, and to a mind of such bent as to be able to appreciate the numerous appliances of mechanical power, there will be no lack of matter for study; and it will form a store of information which, in after years, if not positively necessary for the preservation of life and property, yet will certainly prove very useful in your especial calling.

The knowledge of the French language is so universally diffused, that it is considered discreditable in a gentleman not to understand it, even though he cannot speak it fluently: it is, besides, very useful in the navy; and Spanish and Italian may be secondarily annexed. Some excellent treatises on marine sciences are written in the former language.

Probably at school you have learnt something of Latin; this you will find a great auxiliary in acquiring foreign tongues; and which, if you are so disposed, you will have many opportunities of doing.

A good grammar and vocabulary of each are sufficient to ground you distinctly in their rudiments; and you must take advantage of every opportunity to improve that foundation, by requesting foreigners to correct you, in their idioms and pro-

nunciation: in this respect, Spanish is the most difficult.

An acquaintance with the branches of human industry, which constitute the riches of a state, is too apt to be undervalued by those whose pursuits are chiefly of a military nature; but as a matter of information, a knowledge of the relative condition of arts, manufactures, and commerce, in various quarters of the globe, will add a useful and important stock of intelligence to the officer's mind. Avoiding speculative opinions as to the past or ultimate influence of a vast and increasing commerce upon the manners, morals, or real happiness of mankind, and the solid permanent power of a nation, it is sufficient for my purpose to observe to you that an insight into its present operation upon the prosperity of rival countries is requisite and desirable.

I do not mean that your mind should take a commercial turn,—far from it;—poring over pounds, shillings, and pence calculations for the sake of gain, is as unsuitable to an officer, as the neglect of them would be reprehensible in the counting-house clerk; but as you will be engaged in a profession established to protect and promote every

interest of your country, and especially its trade, it is in an enlarged signification that I suggest your learning something of the nature of the general principles of traffic. The various foreign vessels you may visit, will elucidate your reading on the subject; anchorage in foreign ports will accurately and extensively increase your information. Such a knowledge embraces innumerable considerations. Port rights and duties, interior and exterior customs—excise—charter registry and rights of vessels—natural productions, export and import articles of a country—ingenuity of its artisans; mode, price, quantity and quality of its manufactures, rates of exchange, general characteristic of its mercantile population, method of transacting business, and many more which I shall not here enumerate.

The associations of the sea with the commerce of our country are well described by a favourite English poet, who says—

"As Egypt does not on the clouds rely,
But to the Nile owes more than to the sky;
So what our earth and what our heaven denies,
Our ever constant friend, the sea, supplies.

"The taste of hot Arabia's spice we know,
Free from the scorching sun that makes it grow;
Without the worm, in Persia's silks we shine;
And without planting, drink of every vine.

"To dig for wealth, we weary not our limbs,
Gold, though the heaviest metal, hither swims;
Ours is the harvest where the Indians mow;
We plough the deep, and reap what others sow."

VIII.

In the ancient histories which you will read, especially of Greece and Rome,—where striking examples of individual and general heroism are more frequently portrayed than in remoter annals,—you will learn the power of that weapon which you are destined to wield. You will read of the origin, nature, and necessary authority of the laws, and the mighty capacity of the human mind to overcome vast difficulties by political sagacity alone. Philip of Macedon, his son Alexander the Great, and Julius Cæsar, are doubtless three of the greatest historical instances in antiquity of the combination of these qualities in one person.

In modern history you will read a display of the same ambitious passion for dominion and conquest, as if no pure system of self-denying religion had in the interval been revealed to mankind; and though the refinement of our immediate period has in a great degree mitigated the sanguinary attributes of

war, it has hitherto done little to remove the causes which provoke nations to inveterate hostility. It will, therefore, be your duty at all opportunities, personally to inform yourself of the political and military strength of the countries which you visit; of the nature of their government, and peculiar character of legislature, diplomacy, and resources; of the discipline and tactics of their armies and fleets, the pilotage and extent of their harbours and coast, the position and assailable points of their fortified places, the warlike genius, capacity, and physical character of their officers, troops, and seamen, and of their modes of manœuvre by land and by sea. To collect into one focus your intelligence upon these points, never enter too minutely into the detail of trifling matters;—keep a journal, and insert all your observations in laconic and explicit language;—exercise your memory frequently upon them, for however you may be taught to deprecate war as an evil, it is often an unavoidable one, in which your duty will engage you, and when all the information you can gain will better qualify you to act with distinction to yourself and benefit to that country whose sword and bulwark is her navy.

IX.

"*Mens sana, in corpore sano,*" was a motto of the ancients. If, in order to give a vigorous tone to the mind, it is necessary to search diligently after truth to render it efficient, it is no less requisite to inure the body to hardship and fatigue; indeed their physical relation to each other is so closely incorporated, that a unison of tone will be at all times reciprocal, and languor and inertness in the one will induce corresponding affections in the other, —that is, when the whole constitution is healthy, and exempt from partial or general disease.

To all engaged in the profession of arms, athletic exercises are of great and peculiar benefit, conducive to an accurate estimate of individual prowess, to the exclusion of petty personal rivalry, to a uniform frame of cheerfulness and activity, and to superior address and confidence when in contact with a foe. Dispersing the humours of the body which are often engendered by sedentary application, expanding the

lungs and assisting the digestive organs, they invigorate the entire mental system, and preserve it in a clear state of perception, capable of directing the full force of its powers on every sudden emergency.

Pugilism formerly ranked high in general estimation, and though serviceable in connection with the foregoing considerations, it is more the appropriate exercise of a rustic prize-fighter than of a gentleman. The greatest objection I find to its practice, as well as to that of wrestling, is the necessary contact of person, which frequently, by accident, causes serious contests to arise out of mere amicable trials of strength and skill; but this dislike does not amount to a prohibition of the practice of either, when you can pursue them with mutual good-will and friendship; engaging in them with those of irascible tempers should therefore be avoided.

Prize-fighting is a disgrace to an enlightened age. In the course of your service you may possibly witness enough of bloodshed to be impressed with the reflection that war is one of the most lamentable consequences of the imperfection of human institutions; and however dazzling the illusion which invests the character of those aspiring men who occasion such hecatombs of human slaughter, it is

still fallacious, and hides from our perception a just estimate of their pretensions to our admiration. Humanity will say they are more deserving of execration than either imitation or praise. Experience may hereafter expose to you, that some amongst mankind, when excited by ambition, heated by contention, and exasperated by the passion of revenge, are as ferocious as wild beasts; these, in the fury of battle, and under the influence of maddening excitement, will wallow with savage and unrelenting delight in the flowing blood of their fellow-creatures. Should your lot ever be cast amidst such a scene, listen then to the voice of reason and humanity, remembering that though an unenlightened crew are, from feelings to which you are a stranger, flushing their cutlasses or bayonets in indiscriminate carnage, *the officer* fights for honour's sake, the protection of his country, the preservation of those under him, and even of his adversaries,—for self-defence, for conquest, and the love of peace,—and you will never unsheathe the sword without confidence, nor return it to the scabbard unrewarded by the consciousness of having performed your duty.

Expertness in going aloft will be beneficial to your health and welfare; it will bring you into

notice, enable you to examine and ascertain the nature and use of the rigging, ropes, sails, masts, yards, blocks, &c. By frequently mounting to the mast-head or yard-arm, you will become agile, and learn to perform this feat with fearless and secure confidence on occasions of the greatest apparent danger. At leisure moments in fine weather, when the ship is sailing or steaming quietly along, you will experience great delight in quitting the close and confined atmosphere of the midshipman's berth, or the gun-room, to enjoy the pure air and beautiful prospect from aloft.

Many times during my early service at sea, I have sat for hours on the cross-trees, reading, or musing with undefinable pleasure on the scene around me; the boundless expanse of water, undulating beneath a gentle breeze, studded with innumerable near and distant vessels, some in the foreground, vying with the progress of our own ship, others, varying in figure and dimension, stretching their canvas on different courses; others again, more remote, scarcely a discernible speck upon the undefined horizon, presenting a charming and interesting scene. I need not enlarge on this topic, and suggest to your thoughts matter for contemplation when simi-

larly situated: your mind, if well balanced, and of the mould which seeks occasion to dwell on the beauties of creation, and the wondrous works of the Almighty, would not fail to seize leisure moments, such as I have described, to think seriously of the present, and hopefully, prayerfully, of the future.

The military exercises of broadsword and fencing are of a superior order, and in your profession it is your duty to acquire proficiency in the former. The benefit to be derived from skill in the use of your weapon, is found not only in arming the individual with a scientific knowledge of the art of defence and attack—with a commanding management of his strength and science by means of a weapon, and an advantageous exercise of vision, agility, strength, and temper; these acquirements are also of the greatest utility in giving an elevated and manly carriage to his person. They expand his chest, erect his head, and place him fast upon his legs. They teach him stratagem, ready perception, and self-command, a graceful, firm, but flexible disposition of his limbs, and by the sense of power which they confer, guard him both morally and physically.

As shooting also affords an amusement to many,

and is considered a manly accomplishment, I shall not pass it by, especially as there is one propensity which it is necessary you should be warned against.

I need hardly say I allude to duelling: dexterity in pulling a trigger frequently renders the amusement agreeable, and from long practised precision at his mark, the matriculating duellist finally aims to "hit his man." If a person of vain, assuming levity of disposition, his arrogance wilfully provokes a rencontre, the ground is taken, his antagonist falls, his vanity triumphs, and he feels no remorse;—but this vanity requires feeding, he repeats the offence, until a lucky and unexpected ball (perhaps from some unskilful hand,) sends the pest of society to account for himself elsewhere.

In these days, and in this country, such a character is happily rare; but I have met more than one of this description. Duelling is, however, now so much out of fashion that it will probably never be your lot to meet any of these young men whose irascible dispositions brook no difference in opinion, and know no restraint of morality and religion. Associating with kindred spirits, and fuming with the intoxication of false courage, under the pretext of certain fanciful notions of false honour of their

own creation, they imagine that they can with impunity insult the cool and quiescent amongst their brother officers; but I shall expose to you the futile and contemptible tenets of these bullies, when tried by the indestructible and irreversible rules of true manly honour, in order that you may avoid encountering them when those rules will permit you.

"True valour" reserves itself to be exercised in the hour of peril, in the presence of the enemy, in the fury of the tempest, and in the face of death. It is meek, calm, passive, forbearing, and deliberate; and though it may sometimes involuntarily flash forth in a transient expression of indignation, at instances of meanness, falsehood, duplicity, and treachery, it must be highly provoked indeed to become a wilful aggressor. True valour is humble, generous, liberal, kind, and conciliating, the friend of the weak, the irresolute, and the oppressed; ever cautious of giving wilful offence to any, and, silently satisfied with itself, makes no parade, never wantons with the feelings of others, nor offers provocation to the most insignificant of its associates; courteous, gay, invincible, it plumes the crest of chivalry with genuine heroism, and will die to defend a comrade or succour a fallen foe.

False valour is selfish, captious, quarrelsome, boisterous, and inflated with vanity; makes an exhibition in trifles, provokes occasion, courts a name, bullies the timid, tries to irritate the patient and placid, and to intimidate the young and inexperienced; but in the moment of real and imminent danger, cracks like the flash of a pistol, and, shrinking beneath the gaze of collected fortitude, disperses in smoke. Stupified by the actual presence of real danger, it stands astounded on the brink of destruction, incapable of an effort to avert the impending calamity; while accumulation of peril only serves to rouse the intrepid breast to an energetic exercise of its inexhaustible resources; rising with the increase of surrounding tumult and disaster, the true dignity of manhood then asserts its sway in the fulness of heroic magnanimity, calmly triumphs over its hectoring adversary, and, the danger over, retires again within its own original tranquillity of soul.

The parade of courage in a man resembles coquetry in a woman,—both assume artificial weapons, and under specious impostures endeavour to hide real deficiency; both are alike unworthy of serious notice.

There is no great danger to be apprehended from

this sort of gentleman, but it is most agreeable to keep him aloof, and not incur the risk of being infected with his mania. The youngest boy can pass very little time in a cock-pit without giving many proofs of his exuberance or deficiency of physical courage, and it is quite a mistake to imagine that the matured officer can possibly fail in that respect, from lack of penetration, or presence of mind, but he may waver in a prompt and energetic exercise of it.

"Rashness" is as far removed from true courage as pusillanimity; and the high-minded officer engaged in battle, cannot but be perfectly indifferent to surrounding observations; nor is his person ever in his thoughts when he leads into action, performs a feint, or retires from the combat, according as the ultimate concentrations of his designs shall require. To compel a combined operation to the point of success, his presence may be required in various directions, especially if the resistance of the enemy be powerful and vigilant, and his officers fall fast around him;—but the responsibility of his charge, the obligations of his duty, and the necessary workings of his mind, entirely exclude every personal consideration either one way or the other. To such a man honour is vital, a sacred temple within his

own breast, of which he takes care to be always the natural guardian; unsullied as the polish, and piercing as the point of that sword, which he should never wield but with distinction,—fighting only to conquer and to save.

Surrounded by the most appalling dangers, he calmly exercises the energies of his soul to vanquish them, and, regardless of selfish consequences, confidently trusts the immediate guard of his person to his followers and its ultimate protection to his God. Should he survive his duty, he will then with becoming modesty and impartiality point a moral over the scene in which he has borne so conspicuous a part.

With respect to the necessity of repelling an insult, let it ever be recollected, that in most cases an appeal to the jurisdiction under which you serve, will be most consistent both with your duty and your honour, as it can never give a decision against either, if you are true to them yourself; remember that self-conquest is one of the most arduous and most glorious of victories; that you may possibly be wrong; that you have a soul destined for a future state, where you will be accountable for all you have done wrong or omitted to do right in this world;—

that he who is not supported by that consciousness under affronts, deserves to feel the strong arm of the law; but that an apology should never be rejected, and no recourse had to the final appeal until you have applied the foregoing considerations to the case in point.

Speech, gesture, even tone, are liable to various interpretations, but "the lie," either implied or direct, and a blow, can never be mistaken, nor tolerated by an officer *under any circumstances;* and he who could put up with either, is unfit and unworthy to enter honourable society.

But it is rarely that an officer of upright, intelligent character finds himself exposed to either: he will always remain within the sphere of his own honour; and though liable to inadvertency, the uniform dignity and correctness of his deportment will generally keep every species of affront at a distance.

It is the imbecile, irascible, and superficial, who so often expose themselves to obloquy, which they can perhaps never rectify in the whole course of their future lives; and it might probably be an eligible and desirable thing, if in all naval and military societies were established courts of honour, to decide solely and definitely on questions of this nature;

they might prove a considerable check to those petty jealousies which often, from trifling difference of opinion and character, ripen into serious, irreparable quarrels; and by repressing such discordant ebullitions, would encourage a frank and generous sympathy of manly regard, and that harmonious urbanity of disposition which is ever ready to coincide upon mere matters of opinion, and should ever prevail amongst high-spirited characters embarked in the same loyal and patriotic career.

I can hardly close these comments upon the subject of duelling, better than by referring the young officer to those excellent regulations laid down by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty upon this matter, and which, for the information of those into whose hands these remarks may fall, but who may not be able to refer to the book in question, I shall quote verbatim. At page 299, art. 7 of the Queen's Regulations and Admiralty Instructions, occurs the following paragraph :—

"Every officer serving in her Majesty's fleet is hereby ordered neither to send nor accept a challenge to fight a duel with any other person of the fleet.

"Every officer of the fleet, on becoming privy to

any intention of other officers to fight a duel, or having reason to believe that such is likely to occur, owing to circumstances that have come under his observation or knowledge, is hereby ordered to take every measure within his power to prevent such duel, having recourse, if necessary, to the captain or commanding officer.

"Every officer of the fleet is hereby ordered, in no manner or degree to evince dissatisfaction with or to upbraid another officer for refusing or not sending a challenge; and all officers are enjoined neither to reject, nor advise the rejection of, a reasonable proposition for the honourable adjustment of differences that may have occurred.

"Any officer of the fleet who may be called on to act as second or friend to an officer intending to fight a duel, is to consider it to be his imperative duty, and he is hereby ordered strenuously to exert himself to effect an adjustment between the adverse parties, on terms consistent with the honour of each; and should he fail, owing to the determination of the offending parties not to accept honourable terms of accommodation, he must be guided by the second paragraph of this order.

"As obedience to orders is the essential and

governing principle of the naval service, those officers may rest assured of the support and approbation of the Admiralty who, having had the misfortune of giving offence to, or having injured or insulted others, shall frankly explain, apologise, or offer redress for the same; or who, having received offence, injury, or insult from another, shall cordially accept frank explanation, apology, or redress for the same; or who, if such explanation, apology, or redress are refused to be made or accepted, shall submit the matter to be dealt with by the captain or commanding officer of the ship or fleet; and every officer who shall act as herein-before directed, and consequently refuse to accept a challenge, will be deemed to have acted honourably, and to have evinced a requisite obedience not only to this order, but also to the pleasure of the Queen."

X.

FROM this subject I turn with pleasure to amusements, which have an exhilarating and lively tendency, unbend the mind, and invigorate the body. No popular adage is more correct than that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." It is at all times an agreeable spectacle to see a young man as habitually expert in feats of activity as in intellectual talent.

To the hours of study devote serious, intent, methodical attention of mind; to those of recreation, the gay, gallant, and playful nimbleness of the body; and without looking assiduously for it, an address in the former will come readily to the aid of the latter.

If you have excelled at school in cricket, fives, and marbles, you will enter with pleasure into similar games in manhood—cricket as you have previously known it, fives converted into tennis, and marbles into billiards.

To attain proficiency in them requires a quick eye, calm temper, steady hand, and active person. Billiards is particularly the scientific game of a gentleman, and, well played, affords as much interest to the spectator as to the player himself.

It is extremely fascinating, and can in general be so easily resorted to, that no part of a gloomy morning need be devoted to listlessness, when the hour of exercise is arrived, if a respectable billiard-table is within your reach.

In private houses, the game is conducted, of course, with the same regard to gentleman-like manners as other occupations; but public billiard-tables will perhaps fall chiefly within your present reach, and it is necessary to caution you that they are sometimes found in places of a disreputable description, and that you should be wary of playing with strangers.

The game of quoits is excellent practice for combining the movement of the hands with the direction of the eye, poising the body in conformity to the will, and bracing the muscles of the arm. Amongst sedentary games chess is the most noble, being one of rational and amicable interest between intellectual powers, concentrating within a very

small compass the properties of stratagem, caution, calculation, and detail. A knowledge of this game will make your society welcome to others, and bring much satisfaction to yourself.

All games of chance, whether with cards or dice, and anything that leads to gambling, I entirely disapprove of; and the Admiralty Regulations are peremptory with regard to the latter.

Whist, perhaps, is the only game with cards which may assist to sharpen the intellect, as it requires an accurate knowledge of the power of cards, a clear memory, and much practice, to play with skill. But however clever you may become in such amusements, you must not consider them serious pursuits, but merely agreeable trifles to fill up leisure in society. And, lastly, I charge you most earnestly, when the restraint of discipline no longer claims your obedience, never to make them subservient to pecuniary considerations. Such a propensity, if once acquired, it cannot be foreseen where it will end. I consider few things more dishonourable, and wide of the character of a true gentleman, than a practice of such expedients to replenish the purse.

Dancing and horsemanship (the latter especially)

are graceful and useful accomplishments which no gentlemen should quite neglect. Subordinate to the advantages of an easy carriage, which is produced by proficiency in the dance, is the amusement it affords to the young of both sexes; and the youthful officer who avails himself of the attractions of polite society will often escape the snare of the low and designing, while he is frequenting the ball-room. You may hear such a pursuit decried by the rude, cynical sons of your profession; but be assured it is an accomplishment by no means derogatory to manliness or high spirit; on the contrary, it contributes to set off both, by uniting them with courtesy and politeness to the fairest portion of the creation, the presence of whom should always command deference and protection.

To be a good horseman is no unworthy attribute in the acquirements of a gentleman. Sailors are usually accounted bad horsemen, and their mode of life is accepted as an apology for the defect; but there is no reason why an officer should give way to any such notion; and you must not be daunted by this opinion or a few falls, whenever occasion and inclination present the opportunity for a gallop; for this is an amusement which you will doubtless find

from experience affording the greatest relaxation after the duties and confinement of a long voyage.

A ramble, whether on foot or horseback, in foreign lands will naturally create a desire to carry home, by the aid of your pencil, some reminiscence of the beauties of the scene, or the wonders of art; and then it is that you will derive advantage from the cultivation of this accomplishment, which, with a love of poetry, and a taste for music, are far more worthy your notice than the light enjoyments to which I have previously made allusion. It is the study of these refined pursuits which tend more than anything else to the enjoyment of elegant tastes.

The most useful practice of your pencil will consist in sketching, with a bold, clear, decided, and rapid outline, such headlands, coast scenery, and landscape, as may strike your eye and imagination of the picturesque.

Until you have arrived at the highest grades of your profession, and then only if you possess a real talent for painting, I would not recommend your entering into the minutiæ of composition; it is apt to encroach upon time which may be better employed, and which is too valuable to be thrown

away; nor is oil painting (though a most alluring occupation) suitable for a ship, unless your time is comparatively your own, and your rank entitles you to accommodation for this amusement without interfering with the comfort of others: nevertheless you may very justly entertain a high value for the art in its proper place, and derive infinite pleasure from those sources of gratification which it contributes so much to enlarge, but clever sketching and correct mathematical drawing are the utmost limits that an officer should aim at attaining, unless he has a decided talent for this art, and in that case it may become his duty to cultivate it with greater assiduity; he may make it a pursuit of leisure hours to become acquainted with the theory of painting, in order to estimate fairly such beautiful productions of foreign schools as it may be his good fortune to meet with; but this study should not be permitted to attract his mind from more essential occupations.

With the sister graces, poetry and music, I recommend a more restricted acquaintance; it is one thing to possess a well-grounded sensibility to their beauties, but it is widely different to drink deeply at these fountains of pleasure.

Were it necessary to propitiate an acquiescence

in this prohibition from the enamoured votaries of the muses, I could advance very substantial reasons for it, at the same time acknowledging that their united inspirations breathe a pure and perpetual solace around the ills of life, not to be derived from any other human source.

"The mind of man," said an eminent statesman, "is like the sea, which is neither agreeable to the beholder nor the voyager in a calm or in a storm; but it is so to both when a little agitated by gentle gales; and so the mind when moved by soft and easy passions and affections. I know very well that many who pretend to be wise, by the form of being grave, are apt to despise both poetry and music as toys and trifles too light for the use or entertainment of serious men; but whoever find themselves wholly insensible to those charms, would, I think, do well to keep their own counsel, for fear of reproaching their own temper, and bringing the goodness of their natures, if not of their understandings, into question. It may be thought at least an ill sign, if not an ill constitution, since some of the Fathers went so far as to esteem the love of music a sign of predestination, as a thing divine and reserved for the felicities of heaven itself." This brings me to that science,

"Music," of which Shakspeare has said, "The man that hath no music in himself, nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds, is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils." And who is there that will confess to an ignorance of its influence in elevating the mind and alleviating the daily disturbances of life?—whilst in lulling its care, its passions, and its follies into calm repose, it is perhaps still more powerful and instantaneous.

Music, in its simplest form, requires neither practical skill nor precautionary steps to find its access to the heart. The ploughboy's carol, the milkmaid's ballad, the mountaineer's chant, and even the seaman's doleful ditty, cadenced forth in notes and tones peculiarly his own,—all these produce powerful and pleasing sensations; but to create that intensity of feeling to which the mind of man is susceptible, we must seek amongst the sublime compositions of Handel, and Mozart, and Beethoven, or the less exalted but not less beautiful strains of Weber and Mendelssohn.

A natural and uninstructed sensibility to the power of harmony, will produce a considerable degree of pleasure; but an acquaintance with musical composition will greatly enhance the most refined feeling which accompanies the performance of such pieces.

XI.

PURSUITS such as those to which I have alluded, although they bring with them a sense of great personal gratification, and are besides more or less useful to those who are proficient in them, are yet but of secondary moment in relation to the great objects of a sailor's career. It must be borne in mind, that while it may be both right and proper to seize every occasion for storing the memory with graceful images and associations, and acquiring a knowledge of art in its various branches, the professional pursuits of splicing, reefing, tacking ship, heaving the lead and log, laying out manfully on the topsail-yard, giving a quick relief, being first at your station when all hands are called or the drum beats to quarters, keeping a correct watch and quarter-bill, taking good solar and lunar observations, and working them out correctly and expeditiously, besides acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of the steam-engine, especially in these days when nearly every warlike vessel is a steamer—these,

I say, must be the objects of your present ambition, in preference to blowing your flute or using your pencil; let the latter, however, fill up your spare time, and their adoption now may hereafter become a source of great gratification to yourself and others, for you may thereby be enabled to learn and bring home the national music of foreigners, or by your fireside, in years to come, open out a portfolio, filled with delineations of many a scene of former interest and importance.

XII.

RELIGION is paramount to every subject which I have hitherto ventured to discuss for your edification,—it embraces not only your present and future welfare in this world, but also your eternal state hereafter.

The very prevalent opinion that it is of too dry and serious a description for the apprehension of youth, and probably that you are yet too young to be addressed upon it, has no weight at all with me. Should I neglect in this little treatise to impress upon your mind a sense of your perpetual dependence on the providence of God, my error might cause you to become remiss in your endeavours to merit His protection. I shall, therefore, attempt to give you such succinct ideas of the lasting importance of religion and its sacred ordinances as may at present appear sufficiently necessary.

In the first place, you must consider those personages of whom you read in heathen mythology, such

as Jupiter, Juno, Minerva, Neptune, &c., where they had any existence at all, as mere mortals, and where they had none, as the fabulous invention of ancient poets to personify certain qualities of the mind. The principal of them are supposed to have been the leaders of various tribes, who in very remote ages colonised parts of Asia and Europe, and from their superior wisdom and exploits, were—by people immersed in darkness and superstition—elevated to the rank of deities.

The chief idea which you may yet have formed of the sacred duties of true religion will arise from the knowledge of your catechism. You will remember, then, that in your infancy your godfathers and godmothers promised for you that you should "renounce the devil and all his works," that you should believe in all the articles of the Christian religion, and that you should "keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of your life." But, now that you are launched alone on the world, where scepticism, ignorance, and thoughtlessness upon this indispensable subject will surround you, your parents, or those godfathers and godmothers can no longer be responsible for you; the real trial commences whether you will now in yourself strenu-

ously endeavour to perform what your sponsors have hitherto undertaken for you; and, by your own perseverance or remissness therein, you must in future stand or fall. May the admonitions which you have already received from your natural guardians, be furthered by the blessing of that benignant Creator who can aid your endeavours, enlighten your inexperience, and perfect your practice in every struggle for Christian rectitude.

To "renounce the devil and all his works," will consist in maintaining an inflexible resistance against every incentive to vice, and all the infidelity, immorality, and profligacy, which may be unhappily presented to your view under the most seducing aspects.

The articles of your Christian faith are contained in your Belief.

God's holy commandments are dispersed throughout the Scriptures, and are concentrated in the "ten," which you have learnt by heart. To expound fully to you why there exists in the constitution of your nature, as a created being, a necessity for strenuously opposing and overcoming desires, which, from their potent and instinctive incorporation with other animal functions, may seem to you an essential part of your organisation, would be above your present

comprehension and my abilities; but I may venture briefly to intimate that necessity to you, as upon the practice of it may greatly depend all that is dear to you in this world, and your destination towards immortality.

God is a being, perfect, infinite, and eternal, everywhere present, and everywhere exhibiting His supreme "might, majesty, and dominion." His word created all that may strike your observation as wonderful and extraordinary in the works of nature; the invisible manifestations of His prodigious workmanship are displayed in the sun, the moon, the stars, the earth, and ocean, the sky, and all the innumerable diversities of animal and vegetable life; and lastly, and most gloriously, in man—a being endowed with great capacity for the enjoyment of what is essentially good, but subject to degradation from that which is essentially evil.

It is beyond our capacity to enter into any explanation of the necessity for the introduction of evil into a universe created by perfect wisdom and goodness. We must accept the truth of this commencement from the records of sacred writ, and of its actual existence our own daily experience will fully testify.

The direction of its perpetual agency and hostility, with the virtue and happiness of mankind, is represented under the character of a spirit, as Satan or the devil, whose deeds are deeds of darkness, and which you are called upon to renounce.

In order to effect this great object you must look upon yourself as a descendant from man, originally created pure and undegenerate, but free, and subject to the adoption of good or evil designs; you must believe he fell from that purity by transgressing the commands of his Maker, became subject to the dominion of evil by the allurements of Satan, and involved all his future progeny in the terrible consequences of that fall. He is now susceptible to the operation of two distinct impulses—the one within himself directing him to good, the other to evil; these, in Scripture language, are called, by way of contradistinction, "spiritual" and "carnal."

Natural religion is so denominated as existing distinctly previous to the descent of our Saviour Jesus Christ, or as the capacity for religion possessed by those who have been, or still are, ignorant of that pure and perfect system which He came down from heaven to introduce and exemplify, and which is denominated "revealed religion."

The nation of Israel had, according to the testimony of all history, sacred and profane, alone received a direct revelation of the will of God previous to the coming of our Saviour, who condescended to a union of His spiritual with our carnal substance, in order that the perfection of His divine nature and attributes might regenerate the adulterated spirituality of mankind, and work their ultimate triumph over the secret machinations of their arch and subtle foe. The effecting of this mighty event is denominated by Christians the redemption and salvation of mankind.

The conviction that you are a free agent, liable to the consequences of your adoption of good or evil, will be evident to you from this, that had the Almighty intended otherwise, He would, by the intervention of His power, have prevented the first fall.

That you are a finite and accountable creature, will also be evident to you from the frequent instances of dissolution daily brought to your notice, and from the unremitting suggestions of what is called conscience.

That you are an imperfect being; from the utter incapability of man, in his present state, to penetrate the mysterious organisation of the simplest particle

of created matter, or ascertain with precision the remote operations of its various phenomena.

That you are a dependent being, you will be perpetually reminded by contemplating the visible operations of that higher intelligence which governs all the mystery of nature; which guides in constant harmony the starry host of heaven, and revolves the changing seasons, to replenish and beautify the earth; which raises tempestuous whirlwinds on the deep, and quelleth the raging thereof into a perfect calm.

That you are immortal;—the testimony of all ages, Pagan, Mosaic, and Christian; the secret aspirations of your own soul, and its assent to the awful assurances and denunciations of the gospel, will sufficiently determine.

This assent is denominated faith, and must be founded, not merely upon the explanations which you may receive from others, but upon an attentive and constant perusal of the Bible by yourself.

The grandeur of composition in that sacred book frequently soars beyond the limits of mere mortal eloquence, and combines the beautiful inspiration of perfect theology with the authentic style of profane narrative; exhibiting the noblest adaptation of lan-

guage to the importance of its subject. I therefore enjoin upon you never to neglect reading a chapter (or a portion of one) each day, and if practicable, morning and evening. The time is gone by when scoffers would prevent the possibility of your doing this, and though, when I first joined the service, it was difficult to obtain retirement on board so small a craft as that to which it was my lot to be first appointed;—now it is otherwise, and seldom will a youngster in these days fail to find out not only some one amongst the officers who will readily afford him the use of his cabin, but possibly one who will enjoin upon him the sacred duties which I urge upon your attention.

In all large ships a chaplain is part of the appointed complement, and to him any young officer may unhesitatingly apply for assistance in this important matter; but should you be unfortunately placed in a small vessel where religion is not considered by the superior officers, remember that the heartfelt prayer, though it finds no utterance on the lips, is as acceptable to the Almighty as any petition which might be performed with all the outward symbols of worship. When pacing the deck on a midnight watch, your thoughts may dwell on those subjects which are best calculated for solitude, and

perhaps there is no class of men who have more leisure for such occupation of mind, than seamen. Remember, then, that you can never in after years be able to say to your conscience that the times and opportunities have been wanting for the due performance of your religious duties.

By a proper study of God's holy Word, you will learn to make its precepts the object of your frequent and assiduous cultivation, and in so doing you cannot fail to acquire the ability correctly to distinguish inadvertent error from wilful guilt; what extenuation the inheritance of an imperfect tenement admits of in the former, and to what certain punishment premeditated indulgence in the latter will inevitably lead.

In the Old Testament you learn the fruits of adherence to good and evil, in the fluctuating destiny of a people whom the Almighty had peculiarly selected to render unto Him honour and worship, according to ordinances given directly to them from heaven. You perceive how fatally the power of evil became predominant, and that after many signal deliverances during successive ages, those people were, for their obstinate perseverance in wickedness, finally cast off.

The wandering remnants of the house of Israel

which you meet dispersed over every quarter of the globe, the mock of every illiberal scoffer, must forcibly strike you with the fulfilment of prophecy relating to that once great and illustrious people. The persecution to which they are still subject conveys the humiliating reflection, that the tolerant and benignant spirit of the dispensation which succeeded their downfall, is yet far from governing the hearts of mankind in regard to their fellow-creatures; for although they consummated their rebellion against God, by the crucifixion of the Messiah, and still remain incredulous to the divinity of His then rejected mission, they are on that account the more objects of commiseration to the true Christian. It will be sufficient, that while *he* beholds them indulging in a fruitless expectation that the Prince of Peace, foretold by their ancient prophets, will be to them an earthly prince, he should regard them as an instance of the terrible consequences of incurring the anger of an offended Creator, and feel that their better hope will terminate in disappointment; nevertheless he leaves those matters at issue between their God and themselves; and, as fellow-creatures, takes them into the consideration of benevolent and humane sympathy.

Throughout the Scriptures, many pointed and affecting allusions to this downfall and dispersion of the Jewish nation pathetically present themselves; and it has been succinctly recorded by their historian Josephus.

God Almighty, in His continuing mercy to mankind, chose to institute upon earth another code of religion, and to supersede the splendid ceremonial of the Mosaic law by a ritual of pure and undecorated simplicity; the introduction, dissemination, and exemplification of this holy religion forms the subject of the New Testament.

At that eventful era, mankind had become so universally immersed in darkness, depravity, and estrangement from the true God, so entirely given up to all sorts of abominable idolatry, that nothing short of superhuman means could have reclaimed them: nay, so deeply were they plunged into the abyss of enormity, that, but for the intervention of His only-begotten Son, they would have been for ever separated from Him, and their posterity, instead of remaining the children of heaven, would have become the children of the devil, and of eternal condemnation.

May you hence be warned of the dreadful conse-

quences of yielding to evil, and ever resolutely abide by what is good.

The New Testament informs you how transcendently awful was the effecting of this redemption in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. He, the representation of the everlasting Godhead, the Sovereign of thrones, of dominions, of cherubims, and seraphims, the Prince of Peace, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, voluntarily rendered Himself a sacrifice and propitiation for the sins of a self-debased generation of men—voluntarily descended to the lowest estate of mortality, to be unto them an example of a pure and enlightened system of perpetual self-denial, patience, meekness, humility, chastity, charity, benevolence, and holiness, the adoption of which could alone unfold to them the pathway to heaven, and reconcile them unto their offended Maker, teaching thereby that every soul of man may, by steadfast adherence to His righteousness, become a temple of the living God.

Intense, indeed, ought to be our gratitude, and perpetual our endeavours to imitate His great and glorious example; but it has still to work its way against human passions and prejudices, instigated, heightened, and arrayed, by the evil adversary.

Upon those solemn subjects—eternal redemption and condemnation—the flimsiness of human casuistry is too apt to disperse in fragments beneath the inexhaustible artifices of our crafty and active enemy; but from the sacred page which records the miracles and doctrines of our Saviour and His apostles, you can alone draw out an impenetrable phalanx of spiritual array, whose armour will render you invulnerable to all his weapons. This mighty struggle in the inner man is in reality taking up the cross, and must be assumed by every faithful soldier of Christ. How insignificant are all the transient honours, the successes, the vicissitudes, or the utmost attainments of man's industry, when compared with that triumph which rends the veil of mortality from his heart, and, through the merits of his great Redeemer, presents him before the throne of God a conqueror in the career of immortal glory!

The magnificence of this idea must nevertheless be tempered by many considerations of man's own present unworthiness. It is a triumph unseen by the world, and should not be obtruded there; for although, in its most extensive scope, Christianity is replete with vast and astonishing sublimity, it is likewise its peculiar spirit to be always exempt from

self-righteousness, and to descend to domestic usage as a familiar friend, extending a charitable sweetness and forbearance over the infirmities of all its associates. Nor must you look upon those who are unfortunately removed from the knowledge of it with any feeling of inward superiority; on the contrary, you must ever be ready to extend towards them the advantages which you enjoy with conciliating candour, grace, and humanity.

At God's appointed time, Christianity is destined to circulate throughout all those regions of the earth from which (for purposes known only to Omniscience) it is at present withheld; and you should consider it a never-failing source of gratitude unto Him, that you have been born where its wise and holy dispensations are so extensively disseminated.

One of the most convincing proofs of the divine origin, verity, and authenticity of the Christian religion is, that it contains principles of conduct which human reason could never have conceived. The reveries of the wisest among the heathens fall far short of its perfect strictness of discipline, its unostentatious piety and beautiful morality. Before it appeared to bring life and immortality to light, the world had never imagined a system calculated to

preserve those who steadfastly adhere to it in perpetual amity, harmony, and peace, and the plain, incontrovertible maxim, in one sentence of the gospel, "Love your enemies," overthrew in a moment all the speculations of ages of erroneous philosophy. I cannot, then, too earnestly recommend to your constant perusal the book which contains the entire series of its pure and holy doctrines.

The sacred character of our Saviour Himself exhibits their utmost power and perfection; amongst His apostles are some shades of difference. We must not expect them to equal their Lord, but the miraculous conversions, the unconquerable resolution, the noble, affecting, and argumentative eloquence, the unwearied perseverance and comprehensive labours of St Paul, establish him as one of the most mighty pillars of the Church of Christ.

The mild, contemplative, and dignified character of St John the Baptist—his highly exalted office, in being the appointed predecessor and baptizer of the Son of God; the elevated and heavenly resignation of St Stephen, and the warm, rich, and useful piety of the erring St Peter, sufficiently indicate that our Lord chose to work His Father's will by instruments variously constructed; and from the miserable slavery

and perdition of sin, to lead mankind unto a knowledge of righteousness by means best known to Himself. I sincerely recommend that you will strenuously endeavour to march on under His sacred banner, "conquering and to conquer." If you do, the great "Jehovah" Himself will grant unto you all things that are needful for your soul and body, will be merciful unto you and forgive you your sins, will save and deliver you from all dangers, "ghostly and bodily," from your spiritual enemy and everlasting death. An eccentric writer on religious subjects remarked, that "men carry on a kind of coasting trade with religion. In the voyage of life they profess to be in search of heaven, but take care not to venture so far in their approximations to it, as entirely to lose sight of the earth; but should their frail vessel be in danger of shipwreck, they will gladly throw their darling vices overboard, as other mariners their treasures, only to fish them up again when the storm is over."

Let me advise you not to follow after religion in this lukewarm fashion.

Avoiding all the sects and schisms into which the Christian Church has been so long unhappily divided, I have in the foregoing attempted to give

you a brief similitude of the great outlines of its prevailing character, and shall close this imperfect sketch with the further observation, that in commemoration of the last solemn assembling of our Saviour and His apostles previous to His crucifixion, its most sacred rite was instituted by His especial injunction. I therefore hope that you will assiduously prepare yourself to receive the holy sacrament whenever you have attained a suitable age and been duly confirmed—afterwards continuing to do so at every convenient opportunity, and by that means strengthen yourself in the resolute practice of a pure and holy life.

Humbly conceiving that the Established Church possesses every human means to promote the salvation of its followers, provided they are true to themselves, I must, of course, wish you to conform to its principles; should you ever hear its venerable institutions made an object of disrespectful scoffing by any of your thoughtless companions, it will be your duty quietly to discountenance all such idle and profane levity of conversation.

Before I close this topic, I must not omit to point out and warn you against a habit—a very evil habit—in which many thoughtless young men indulge.

I speak of swearing—using God's holy name in vain. A writer on moral philosophy says that in many persons a seriousness and sense of awe overspread the imagination whenever the idea of the Supreme Being is presented to their thoughts. This effect, which forms a considerable security against vice, is the consequence not so much of reflection as of habit; which habit being generated by the external expressions of reverence, which we use ourselves or observe in others, may be destroyed by causes opposite to these, and especially by that familiar levity with which some learn to speak of the Deity, of His attributes, providence, revelations, or worship.

God has been pleased to forbid the vain mention of His name: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Now the mention is *vain* when it is useless; and it is useless when it is neither likely nor intended to serve any good purpose, as when it flows from the lips, idle and unmeaning, or is applied upon occasions inconsistent with any consideration of religion and devotion, to express our anger, our earnestness, our courage, or our mirth, or indeed when it is used at all, except in acts of religion, or in serious and seasonable discourse upon religious subjects.

The offence of profane swearing is aggravated by the consideration that in *it* duty and decency are sacrificed to the slenderest of temptations. Suppose the habit, either from affectation or by negligence and inadvertency, to be already formed, it must always remain within the power of the most ordinary resolution to correct it, and it cannot, one would think, cost a great deal to relinquish the presumed pleasure which it fails to confer. A concern for duty is in fact never strong, when the exertion requisite to vanquish a habit founded in no antecedent propensity is thought too much or too painful.

A contempt of positive duties, or rather of those duties for which the reason is not so plain as the command, indicates a disposition upon which the authority of revelation has obtained little influence. This remark is applicable to the offence of profane swearing, and describes, perhaps, with sufficient exactness, the general character of those who are most addicted to it. Besides this argument, let the young officer who has allowed himself to fall into a habit of swearing, remember, that should he even inadvertently make use of an oath on duty, he renders himself amenable to his superiors for an infringement of the regulations of the service, and let

him mark this notable fact, that unless the use of an oath is a habit upon certain occasions, the mouth cannot utter the words of imprecation without *some* premeditation, some decided intention, or at least some knowledge of the intended act, early enough to check its perpetration.

An officer is strictly enjoined by the Admiralty Instructions to prevent all profane swearing amongst the ship's company. How can he do this if he ever permits a profane oath to pass his lips? And if I had no better argument to offer, it should suffice, that now-a-days it is considered ungentlemanly to swear.

Let me urge upon you, then, never to allow any example of a superior, however much you may admire his qualities as a seaman, or esteem him as a friend, to induce you to commence a habit as foolish as it is wicked.

XIII.

HAVING endeavoured to place before you an indication of such pursuits as I consider most likely to render you respectable and happy in this life, and worthy of preparing you for a better, a few remarks shall be devoted to some other admonitions and counsel.

That you will at present, or even hereafter, adopt *all* the occupations which I have pointed out to you, I do not expect. The probability is, that you will pursue such of them as are the best adapted to your peculiar capacity and disposition: and if I succeed in suitably directing you to these, I shall consider my labour not without its reward.

My first aim has been to render you a faithful servant to your God, and an efficient officer to your queen and country; my second, that you may become a worthy, agreeable, and accomplished member of society, and the general scope of my observations has been to expose to you the futility of that

opinion which would exclude naval officers from these advantages.

The real truth is, that if, in the early part of their career, their capacities have been assiduously cultivated, they possess means of subsequent improvement superior to the generality of men who enter the world; and, on the contrary, if neglected in youth, are more exposed to danger and deterioration.

I should have recommended to you, amongst the healthful pastimes I have enumerated, that of swimming. This easily-acquired art is nevertheless of equal importance with any exercise I have mentioned. The many instances in which it may become conducive to that most grateful reward of disinterested exertion, which preserves the life of a fellow-creature at the risk of its own, will render it highly valuable to every generous disposition. I could enumerate many signal examples of its utility, and I earnestly recommend it to your practice.

But now let me warn you against a habit which has of late days become so general that I fear my voice will hardly be heard amongst those who advocate what at the best is only an expensive, idle habit—I allude to smoking. I believe no one ever put a pipe or cigar between his lips for the first

time without a feeling more or less of disgust, and if he tried to *smoke* for ten minutes, the chances were that he felt a nausea which in many cases approached to actual sickness. Now I know well, from long observation, the steps by which a young man is led to adopt a practice which he believes one of the attributes of manhood; but the boy or young man who has strength of mind to withstand this first assault upon his understanding and judgment, gives promise of superior intellect, and I would mark him as one likely to hold some day a position which would require those better materials of which his character is constructed. Depend upon it, that having once begun to "look forward to your smoke" at certain hours, it is no easy matter to leave it off, and the pecuniary drawback may be estimated (for an average smoker of cigars) at about £30 per annum. If all other arguments fail, should not this alone be a sufficient one to deter you from such a "baneful" practice?—and I use the word baneful advisedly, for physicians will give you many names of patients whose health has been broken down by undue indulgence in the use of this narcotic.

Your profession is one in which smoking is very prevalent. The seaman can be pardoned in the

practice of it—he has not the education which opens to him pursuits whereby he can occupy his leisure hours during the monotony of a long sea voyage; but an officer dare not plead this excuse, and I charge you to think seriously, and ask advice of some true friend, (if you are not satisfied with my arguments,) ere you make your first experiment with the tobacco leaf.

I remember, when I was a lieutenant, being selected for some night duty in a boat which required great caution and secresy, because I did not smoke; the argument of my captain being, that he knew, however wet, cold, and dreary I might find the night, I should not be tempted to allow myself or men to strike a light, and thus endanger the success of our enterprise by discovery.

I quit this subject with a sincere hope that you will at least wait till the age prescribed by the Admiralty Regulations before you begin this practice; for though these instructions permit no officer under eighteen years of age to use tobacco, either *on shore* or afloat, I have known some who, from mere wantonness, took to it while on leave, because they knew it was prohibited while under actual surveillance.

The great value and unerring lapse of time will demand economy and method in managing the leisure moments of which, for some years to come, you will be the master.

You must already be aware that time is far too precious to be trifled away in idleness, or insignificant pursuits; and a skilful arrangement of it will be the only mode by which you can lay in a store of attainment in any of the branches of knowledge which I have pointed out.

Time must not be trifled away in indolence; it has been observed that all nations and ages have agreed, that the morning is the proper time for speculative studies, and those employments that most require the faculties of the mind. For then the stock of spirits is at the fullest, the head is clear, the mind is serene, and the passions are dormant.

"Good hours will be always a most beneficial means to preserve health and spirits; so go to bed by ten and rise by six."

In the morning, all nature appears freshest and most engaging: the mind at that period is also clearest, and possesses most strength and energy. It is not, as at night, worn out and rendered un-

equal by the multifarious impressions of the day, by business and fatigue: it is then more original, and possesses its natural powers. This is the period of new mental creation, of clear conceptions, and exalted ideas. Never does man enjoy the sensation of his own existence so purely, and in so great perfection, as on a beautiful morning. He who neglects this period, neglects the youth of his life. The poet says—

"Falsely luxurious, will not man awake,
And, springing from the bed of sloth, enjoy
The cool, the fragrant, and the silent hour,
To meditation due, and sacred song?
For is there aught in sleep can charm the wise?
To lie in dead oblivion, losing half
The fleeting moments of too short a life;
Total extinction of th' enlighten'd soul,
Or else to feverish vanity alive;
Wilder'd, and tossing through distemper'd dreams;
Who would in such a gloomy state remain
Longer than nature craves, when every muse
And every blooming pleasure wait without
To bless the wildly-devious morning walk?" *

By early rising much may be accomplished which could never be performed if sluggishness is indulged in. A man who has risen early during forty years of his life, has had more time on his hands to use with benefit to himself and others, than he who has

* "Thomson's Seasons—Summer."

lived fifty, but slept through the best hours of the day. An hour in the morning is worth three in the afternoon. The light, heat, and air of the day are much more healthful and cheerful than the cold, dark damps and discomforts of the night. Even the brute creation teach us this. Nature instructs them that the light and warmth of the sun makes that the time of activity; and copying them in this respect, we must rise early, so as thereby to secure the hours best adapted for business or study.

These injunctions as to early rising may not appear to apply immediately to those whom I am now addressing, as you will naturally urge that your professional duties oblige you to be on watch early as well as late, and at any time, night or day; but, nevertheless, you will have ample opportunity whilst staying on shore, or when your position in the service entitles you to choose your own hour of rising; and you will never regret the acquisition of a habit which is conducive to health, besides the other important advantages which can only be understood and appreciated, when that habit has become confirmed.

Whilst you continue diligently to fill up your leisure time with useful and regular occupation, you

must not accustom yourself to entertain highly sanguine hopes as to the result of your application; for although, in our usual dependence upon its operations, time past appears alone fleeting, and time future to be tardy in its advance, the revolutions of both are really equal, and proceed, in parallel lines, to the final consummation of all things. Your anxiety will neither hasten its progress, nor your indifference retard its completion; but by silently and steadily freighting your little bark at every port on its revolving tide, you will gradually advance towards the haven of eternity, deeply laden with the fruits of patience, experience, and wisdom.

An illiterate and uncultivated mind is like a muddy, stagnant pool; but a quick, clear, and sedate apprehension resembles a pellucid stream flowing over beds of precious ore, and blending their brilliant particles with its own pure and transparent liquid.

I have directed your attention generally to the fountain-heads of intelligence, in order that you may learn to think for yourself, and not become insignificantly dependent upon others for the guidance of your opinions and conduct. I have the greatest respect for learning and all its pre-eminent benefits,

but if it fails to direct us in practice, in my estimation it loses its highest value.

The most noble use you can make of it, is to apply its unbounded instruction to the constant regulation of your life, in all the respective duties which it more efficiently develops, and to the practice of what is good and honest, generous, humane, and obliging towards your fellow-creatures, in a more perfect and complete manner than you can do if you remain in ignorance.

It is not merely from books that you will acquire this description of learning; you must study the intelligence whence books have their origin—man himself. The diversity of the species is infinite, and amongst the many millions which constitute the human race, it seems wonderful that no two persons have been discovered exactly alike. It is a study which will strengthen your capacity in every purpose for which you enter into the world, will enlarge your own discrimination and judgment, and apportion to others their just merit or disqualification.

The necessary discipline by which military societies are regulated, is much calculated to check freedom of conversation between superior and subordinate classes, from which the inferiors lose all the

benefit they might derive from the opinions of those above them; but as in all societies some rules of conversation are tacitly admitted,—as politeness, which excludes from private circles rude or intrusive importunity,—so, in official society, much more might be done to promote agreeable and instructive intercourse without descending from necessary self-respect on the one hand, or falling into undue familiarity on the other.

Unfortunately a feeling of collective jealousy of each other sometimes prevails amongst individuals in different stations, which is regarded in their private demeanour, and where the superior happens to be miserably deficient compared with his inferior; and it requires considerable address in the latter to deliver his opinions with that apparent deference which good breeding and the distinctions of rank may demand, without seeming presumptuous.

In such cases it is necessary that the inferior should remain silent, or be very guarded in his expressions, secretly taking care that the adventitious circumstance of their being uttered by higher rank, does not give authority to erroneous statements in preference to what his own deliberate conviction assures him to be more correct.

Should his opinion be seriously called for, it should be given ingenuously and respectfully; and should any great emergency arise where it may be his duty to expostulate upon any impropriety manifestly and glaringly injurious to the interest of the service in hand, he must expostulate with caution and deference, and if forbidden to speak, desist at once,—the injury arising to the service in general from such an inversion of authority, being probably of greater consequence than anything depending upon the case in question.

To know the certain bounds of his duty, and never to overstep them in the hope of displaying superior talent or accelerating his promotion, will extinguish any jealousy which the superior abilities of an inferior officer, may excite in the breast of his superiors; they will admire his modesty, and direct him to execute their orders in a manner pleasing to himself; and while he remembers that he and his official attainments are necessarily subordinate to *their* authority, they will at all times pay a just tribute to his commendable self-control. Thus, though I suggest that you should acquire a prompt and sagacious capacity for thinking, acting, and speaking for yourself, on every occasion in public or

private life, whether of magnitude or minor consequence, I do so with a view to consolidate your own talents, and to detect the errors of others; but in your official demeanour you must never forget that the first essential maxim to be impressed on the mind of every subordinate officer should be the indispensable necessity of *perfect obedience.*

Without respect for the authority, obedience is, I grant, a somewhat irksome task, but it is no less an incumbent one; and you will do well to allow nothing that has a tendency to weaken your official respect for your superiors.

Here a word of advice is necessary, to counsel those rising young officers of the present day, who are too apt to overlook the boundary which separates them officially from their superiors.

It is not unusual to see a midshipman, whilst on leave at our naval ports, in plain clothes—these often consisting of uniform trousers and waistcoat, a shooting-coat, and a wide-awake or pork-pie hat; a cigar in his mouth, (if he can afford such a refinement,) but oftener a dirty short pipe.

Having cast off, *pro tem.*, the official costume, he with it puts aside all official restraint, and is to be found in the billiard-room with young lieutenants,

treating them as his equals, and engaging in all kinds of conversation, with the monkey-like aptitude of boys to imitate men in all their vices, but blind to their better qualities, as far as example is concerned.

With the march of intellect and improvement, our fathers found it necessary to invent a title by which to designate the precociousness of youth in modern times, as compared with what they thought a fitting modesty and reserve in their sons. The title they chose was "Young England," and the costume and habits I have sketched mark the "Young England" generation in the navy.

The lieutenants were not more moral or less in the habit of frequenting theatres or billiard-tables thirty years ago than they are now; yet they were seldom if ever to be found in the company of mates and midshipmen, not only because they had more respect for the position which they had so hardly won, but because they found it was not the habit of the service in those days; and *they* did not find themselves invited to mix freely off duty with *their* immediate superiors.

This was a wholesome custom, and had much to do with the good discipline of the service in former

times; gradually, however, it has subsided into disuse, and to this cause I trace the recurrence of reports and court-martials for disrespect.

A very old but a very truthful saying it is, that "familiarity breeds contempt;" and you have only to look back upon your own slight experience to find examples of this old adage.

To seek for reasons why the official landmark of respect has been nearly obliterated I find more difficult, but I believe it to have originated in "speedy promotion."

When a man toils for an object which he only gains when his hair has become sprinkled with gray, and his eyes dimmed by long service, (if not with positive age) he thinks highly of the prize he has won; he guards it carefully, and having long watched for it, he knows all its value and attributes. It was thus with the mate of former times;—still struggling on with bald head, or gray hair, he found himself classed in the service with "the young gentlemen:" hope deferred made his heart sick; and when the day arrived that entitled him to don his epaulette—from that hour he watched with jealous eye that none should fail in the respect due to his new position; and he did well,—he thereby

preserved the landmarks of the service, and helped to keep up that wholesome discipline, which has been the back-bone and marrow of the profession.

I have said that I believed speedy promotion to be the cause of the present lax state of discipline amongst young officers. Mates have become transformed into lieutenants before they have served two years; and so scarce were officers of this rank during the Russian war, that a midshipman might safely calculate upon being made a lieutenant within even a shorter period after he had passed his examination; the result being, that when that ordeal was over, he talked of his expected promotion as sure to come out by the next mail, and believed himself,—and tried, forsooth, to make others believe,—that at the moment he spoke he might then be a lieutenant. A prize so easily won soon lost much of its value; and thus the dignity of the lieutenant became forgotten, the post less an ambitious one, and his former messmates, who expected shortly to be in the same position, were still treated as equals. Should any stagnation in promotion of mates again occur, the remedy I anticipate will provide itself; but unless such a remedy be presented, it is my duty to warn the young lieutenant that when the hour of heavy responsibility arrives—

when he must stand upon his own dignity to assert his power of command, he will learn that the mere act of obedience is not sufficient to carry out an important order—there *must* exist in the breast of the subordinate an earnest desire to carry out his directions to the spirit, as much from a deep sense of deference to the opinion of his superior, as from an anxious wish to please the commanding officer.

If familiar conversation at all times off duty, followed very naturally by argument, too often upon subjects connected with the profession, has weakened the respect of the junior for his senior, there cannot exist all that deference and restraint which is so essential to the well-being of the service.

Let me further advise you to make it your constant study to compress all your acquired skill within ready call and command for practical utility; and, that you may never be at fault for an expedient upon the most unexpected emergency, you should always be prepared in critical moments, to bring your knowledge into play, and wield your power with the precision of experience and unhesitating dexterity. Study is but the training school for action, and its combined results must be the effect

of application; and this will give energy, grace, celerity, promptitude, and vigorous execution to the duties which officers are called upon to perform;—thus, too, you will acquire a ready faculty for collecting in a moment all your forces in every extremity. This, added to a habitual indifference to any inclemency of weather—a habit which is soon acquired by those inured to all its changes in various climates—will enable you at all times to exhibit a masculine and intrepid superintendence in command, which will inspire all around you with simultaneous vigour and confidence.

Much exposure to the weather may in some instances undermine a delicate frame, but I believe an opposite tendency is far more prevalent, and that to its account is frequently misapplied the real enervation of excess and intemperance.

Nothing is more conducive to general health than restraining every appetite within the bounds of discretion, and nothing more destructive to it than what is usually misnamed a life of pleasure. When moderate limits are set to them, the delights of affection, the pleasures of the table and the field, are pure and salutary sources of enjoyment; but in their unre-

strained indulgence, the libertine, the gourmand, the mere fox-hunter, and the dandy, are perpetually the prey of successive satiety and repletion.

It is the duty of a young man to himself and his companions to resist importunities to adventure upon improper indulgences; and it is only by an accurate knowledge of what is right or wrong, and uniform correctness in his own deportment, that his "Yea" or "Nay" will be satisfactory to himself, and may be beneficial to his associates. Depend upon this, that it is a much mistaken clemency to the vices or follies of others ever to countenance them, by withholding the latter monosyllable when urged to join therein. It *may* not be his duty to expostulate, but it *will* be to refuse the sanction of his word or personal participation.

A habitual relish for spirituous liquors is dangerous and unbecoming. A glass of grog during excessive fatigue or the dreary exposure of a stormy winter's night may prove a useful and exhilarating tonic, but it is an indulgence which should be very sparingly resorted to, or the consequences may be enervation and degradation of character.

Nothing so entirely extinguishes all sense of confidence in the breast of a commander as the know-

ledge that his subordinate is addicted to intemperance. His excellent qualities as a sailor, his indomitable courage as a man, and his otherwise first-rate qualifications as an officer, are all submerged in that one painful, doubting question—Can he be trusted?

XIV.

I HAVE endeavoured, in the foregoing chapters, to prepare you, that you may become a thunderbolt in war and a contented philosopher in peace, and that you may move with unassuming dignity and independence amongst those gentlemen of birth and education who are very apt to undervalue the characteristic pursuits and undissembling sincerity of the naval officer. May those higher distinctions of quality be exhibited in you, which, by constant pursuit amidst the honours and perils, the successes and reverses, the advantages and disadvantages of your noble profession, will be perpetually in demand; and may manly piety, integrity, sincerity, fidelity, generosity, urbanity, and magnanimity illuminate your character with that light of real excellence which requires no artificial irradiation to set it off. Ever entertain an open, frank, and liberal feeling of gratitude for real services conferred upon you; but

never subject yourself to the simpering, insincere contumely of the time-serving courtier by soliciting his favour and patronage.

By thus abstaining from the weight of obligation, you will possess the satisfactory consciousness of being the independent arbiter of your own fortune; and whether it lead you to high promotion or keep you down in the subordinate ranks of your profession, your intrinsic nobility will still be the same—a nobility far above the insignia of mere Court decoration or the adventitious endowment of lands and funds, and which will render you superior to every adulatory coxcomb, whose greatest merit too often consists in the length of his purse, the fashion of his clothes, or the gaudy splendour of his equipage.

The possession and practice of pure and virtuous principles, are far above the unreality of external magnificence, and at the close of a well-spent life in this world will enable you to look towards removal to a better one with contented and tranquil composure.

To those who are thus hourly prepared for eternity, death is so far from being a fearful prospect that, on the contrary, it is the most delightful which

can be presented to them. I recommend you, therefore, ever to disregard the most alluring solicitations of worldly prosperity, when they would infringe upon your virtue or your honour, your duty to your God, your country, or yourself.

Never forget that, however brilliant your attainments, you must not be puffed up with self-conceit; modesty is the most becoming attribute of excellence; and constantly bear in mind, that all knowledge is the gift of God.

He who made you, made your capacity likewise; and although He has ordained that you should be diligent in cultivating what He has so bountifully bestowed, should you become inflated by vain-glory in yourself, He may, in one instant, deprive you of all your greatest acquisitions.

My aim has been to teach you how to "become a great man," how to "live as a good man." To the last it is in your power to reply, "I will." Adventitious circumstances may preclude your becoming the first; but be assured that without *energy* you can never be distinguished; so

> "Be great in act, as you have been in thought;
> Be stirring as the time; be fire with fire;
> Threaten the threat'ner, and outface the brow

Of bragging horror; so shall inferior eyes,
That borrow their behaviours from the great,
Grow great by your example, and put on
The dauntless spirit of resolution."

—SHAKSPEARE.

APPENDIX.

I AM advised that a few words to those who have sons or protégés about to join the navy would be useful; as so many who propose sending a boy to sea, are quite at a loss to know what forms to go through, first to obtain a nomination as a naval cadet, and then as to the mode and kind of preparation for reception into the *Britannia*, which is now always the first appointment in the navy.

Premising that there are only two ways of obtaining a nomination for a naval cadetship—viz., through one of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, or their secretary, or through an admiral or captain, on hoisting his flag or pendant—I cannot do better than quote here the Admiralty Regulations as regards age and qualifications.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ENTRY, EXAMINATION, ETC., OF NAVAL CADETS.

I. No person will be nominated to a cadetship in the Royal Navy who shall be under twelve, or above fourteen years of age at the time of his first examination.

II. Every candidate on obtaining a nomination will be required to pass an examination at the Royal Naval College at Portsmouth, within three months of nomination.*

In the special cases of nominations granted to the sons of natives of Her Majesty's colonies, a candidate will be allowed to pass a *preliminary* examination on board the flag or senior officer's ship on that station; but such examination must be passed in strict accordance with these regulations; and should the candidate be found qualified, it will still be necessary that he should be sent to England, to be entered on board a training ship, where he will be subject to the same regulations as other cadets.

III. The candidate must produce a certificate of birth, or declaration thereof made before a magistrate.

* These examinations will take place on the first Wednesdays in the months of March, June, September, and December.

IV. The candidate must be in good health and fit for the service—that is, free from impediment in speech, defect of vision, rupture, or other physical inefficiency.

Candidates will be required—

1. To write English correctly from dictation, and in a legible hand.

2. To read, translate, and parse an easy passage from Latin, or from some foreign living language.

N.B.—The aid of a Dictionary will be allowed for these translations.

And to have a satisfactory knowledge of—

3. The leading facts of Scripture and English History.

4. Modern Geography, in so far as relates to a knowledge of the principal countries, capitals, mountains, and rivers; to be able to point out the position of a place on a map when its latitude and longitude are given.

5. Arithmetic, including proportion, and a fair knowledge of vulgar and decimal fractions.

6. A knowledge of the definitions and axioms of the First Book of Euclid.

As Drawing will prove a most useful qualification

for naval officers, it is recommended that candidates for the service should be instructed therein.

V. If the candidate be found unqualified at his first examination he will be allowed a second trial at the next quarterly examination. Should he not pass this second examination he will be finally rejected.

VI. If the candidate succeeds in passing the required examination he will be at once appointed to a training ship, for the purpose of instruction in the subjects contained in sheet No. 1, as well as in the rigging of ships, seamanship, the use of nautical instruments, &c.

VII. Quarterly examinations will be held on board the training ship, when any cadet may be examined on the subjects contained in the sheet No. 1, and also in the course of instruction in the rigging of ships, seamanship, &c.

VIII. If a cadet be found at the quarterly examination not to have made sufficient progress, or if, by indifferent conduct or idle habits on board the training ship, he shall shew his unfitness for the

service, it will be the duty of the captain to make a special report thereof to the Admiralty, in order that the cadet may be at once removed from the navy.

IX. When a cadet shall have completed twelve months' instruction, exclusive of vacations, in the training ship he will be examined; and should he obtain a certificate of proficiency he will be discharged into a sea-going ship.

Candidates for naval cadetships will be allowed a second examination, although at the time of such second examination they may exceed the age of fourteen years.

A new regulation relative to the entry and examination of naval cadets of the *second* class, masters' assistants, and second masters, having been issued by the Board of Admiralty, I copy a portion of the circular for the information of those whom it may concern.

I. The examination and entry of young gentlemen in this branch of the service.

II. The education of those entered previously to their being sent to sea.

I.—*Examination and Entry of Candidates.*

1. Young gentlemen on first entering this branch of the service will be denominated Naval Cadets of the Second Class.

2. No person will be nominated to a cadetship of the second class in the Royal Navy who shall be under thirteen or above fifteen years of age at the date of his first examination.

3. Every candidate who obtains a nomination will be required to pass an examination at the Royal Naval College at Portsmouth, on the first examination day after his nomination.

4. The candidate must produce a certificate of birth, or declaration thereof made before a magistrate.

5. The candidate must be in good health, and fit for the service—that is, free from impediment of speech, defect of vision, rupture, or other physical inefficiency.

Candidates will be required—

(1.) To write English correctly from dictation, and in a legible hand.

(2.) To read and translate an easy passage in French.

N.B.—The aid of a Dictionary will be allowed for this translation.

And to have a satisfactory knowledge of—

(3.) The leading facts of Scripture and English History.

(4.) Modern Geography, in so far as relates to a knowledge of the principal countries, capitals, mountains, and rivers; to be able to point out the position of a place on a map when its latitude and longitude are given.

(5.) Arithmetic, including proportion, and a fair knowledge of vulgar and decimal fractions.

(6.) A knowledge of the definitions and axioms of the First Book of Euclid.

As Drawing will prove a most useful qualification for naval officers, it is recommended that candidates for this service should be instructed therein.

6. If the candidate be found not qualified at his first examination, he will be allowed a second trial at the next quarterly examination; should he not pass this second examination he will be finally rejected.

II.—*Education of Candidates entered.*

7. If the candidate succeed in passing the required examination, he will be at once appointed to a training ship, for the purpose of instruction in the following subjects, namely—

(1.) In algebra, simple equations.

(2.) The elements of geometry.

(3.) Plane trigonometry, and the solution of practical and useful problems.

(4.) Spherical trigonometry, the mode of solving triangles, and its application to simple astronomical problems.

(5.) In Navigation, a day's work, and meridional altitudes, longitude by chronometer, construction and use of charts.

(6.) Nautical instruments. To explain and use the sextant, azimuth compass, artificial horizon, and theodolite.

(7.) The use of the Globes, with correct definitions of latitude, longtitude, azimuth, amplitude, and other circles of the sphere.

8. Examinations of the naval cadets of the second class will be held as laid down in chap. 8, arts. 5, 6, and 7 of the Queen's Regulations and Admiralty

Instructions; and such cadets as succeed in passing the final examination will be discharged to sea-going ships as masters' assistants.

9. On leaving the training ship, time will be allowed to the naval cadets of the second class, according to the certificate obtained, in the same proportion as is allowed to cadets by chap. 8, art. 8 of the Instructions.

NOTE.—*List of Instruments and Books which each Cadet will be required to have on Entry:—*

Quadrant or Sextant.

Case of Mathematical Instruments, including a good Protractor.

Spy Glass.

French Grammar, and a Dictionary containing Sea Terms.

A Book on Navigation.

Euclid's Elements.

Book of Geography, (Sullivan's 2s. edition.)

Book on Use of Mathematical and Maritime Instruments.

A Book on the Steam Engine.

Colenso's Arithmetic and Algebra.

Jeans' Trigonometry.

Boyd's Naval Cadet's Manual.

The ship's library will contain books of instruction.

By careful attention to the above Instructions, the parents or guardians of boys intended for the Royal Navy will be enabled to educate them in the manner most profitable for their future prospects; but I should strongly recommend that any boy, however far he may be advanced in his studies, should be sent to one of the preparatory establishments at Southsea or elsewhere, as at these schools, the only object being the education of young gentlemen for the navy, a thorough knowledge is inculcated on the particular topics which are required on examination for an entry into the service. The length of time it may be necessary for a lad to remain at one of these establishments will entirely depend upon his proficiency when joining; and as the credit of the master depends mainly upon the number of boys he *successfully* prepares for the navy, parents may be assured that every exertion will be used to ensure success before their sons are sent up for examination.

A question often asked by the parents or guardians of a boy intended for the navy is as to the expense of outfit, and its description. I have therefore obtained from Messrs Gillott & Hasell, 36 West Strand, London, who are the tailors to the Board of Admiralty, lists with prices of the outfit required by

a boy on joining the *Britannia*, and that necessary for him on joining a sea-going ship when his period in the training ship has expired.

List of Articles required on joining the Britannia.

A chest, without drawers. Length, 3 ft. 6 in.; breadth, 2 ft. 0 in.; height, 2 ft. 3 in.

1 Uniform Jacket,	1 Suit superfine,	£1	12	0
2 Pr. Uniform Trousers,	1 Second cloth,	2	16	0
2 do. Waistcoats,	. . .	1	8	0
1 Uniform Cap, ...		1	2	0
1 Pilot Jacket, ...		2	0	0
1 Pair do. Trousers, . . .		1	2	0
12 White Shirts, ...		3	0	0
12 Collars, ...		0	12	0
6 Night Shirts, ...		1	4	0
4 Pair White Duck Trousers, . .		1	12	0
12 Pair Cotton Socks, . . .		0	14	0
4 Pair Woollen Socks, . . .		0	6	8
2 Blue Flannel Shirts, . . .		1	5	0
4 Pair White Flannel Trousers, . .		3	0	0
1 Blue Tunic Frock for working, . .		0	15	0
1 Cap for do., . .		0	12	0
6 Pair of Drawers, . . .		1	7	0
12 Towels, ...		0	14	0
12 Pocket Handkerchiefs, . . .		1	0	0
3 Pair of Sheets, ...		1	11	6
3 Pillow Cases, ...		0	6	0
6 Flannels or Merino Under Vests, .		1	16	0

2 Black Silk Handkerchiefs,	£0	6	0
2 Pair Braces,	0	4	6
2 Pair of Clews,	0	9	0
1 Hair Mattrass, 1 do. Pillow,	1	15	0
2 Blankets,	0	17	0
1 Counterpane,	0	7	6
3 Pair of Strong Boots,	3	10	0
1 Basin, Soap, and Brush Dish,	0	13	6
1 Clothes Brush,	0	3	6
2 Combs and Brushes,	0	8	0
2 Tooth Brushes,	0	1	6
1 Nail Brush,	0	1	6
3 Shoe Brushes,	0	4	6
1 Scrubbing Brush,	0	1	6
Soap and Blacking,	0	4	6
1 Sponge,	0	5	6
1 Looking Glass,	0	5	6
1 Leather Bag,	0	15	0
1 Clothes Bag,	0	6	6
1 Sailor's Knife with Marlin Spike,	0	2	6

(No dress coat or dirk will be required.)

Silver.

1 Table Spoon	2 Large Forks
1 Dessert Spoon	1 Dessert Fork

2 Tea Spoons.

Instruments.

1 Metal Sextant,	£8 8 to £10 10		
1 Case of Mathematical Instruments with Ivory Protractor,	£1	4	0
1 Parallel Ruler,	0	2	6

The Instruments subject to approval on board *Britannia*, and each to be marked with initials.

Books, Work-books, &c.

Inman's Tables, ...	£1	6	0
Ollendorf's Exercises, . . .	0	12	0
A French Dictionary containing sea terms,	0	7	6
Euclid's Elements (Simpson's), . .	0	4	6
Geography (Sullivan's generalised), . .	0	2	0
Naval Cadet's Manual, or . . .	0	12	6
Nare's Seamanship, ...	1	1	0
Collier's English History, . . .	0	2	0
A Book on the Use of Nautical and Mathematical Instruments (Heather), . .	0	1	0
Maine's Marine Steam Engine, . .	0	12	6
Colenso's Arithmetic and Algebra, . .	0	15	0
Jeans' Trigonometry, Parts 1 and 2, .	0	8	0
Wheeler's Old and New Testament History (Small Edition), . . .	0	11	0
1 Post Quarto faint line 3 do. 1 plain } workbooks,	0	12	0
2 Note Books.			

The friends of cadets must pay into the hands of the paymaster of the *Britannia* the sum of £10 for mess and other expenses *on joining*, and £10 at the *end of each quarter* that they remain on board.

The sum total of the kit I have enumerated will amount to about £58, exclusive of silver.

The outfit for a naval cadet on going to sea will,

of course, be more extensive, and cannot be computed to cost less than £110, exclusive of silver. Thus:—

1 Superfine Blue Dress Coat,	£3	10	0
1 Fine White Cashmere Waistcoat,	0	15	0
2 Super Blue Undress Jackets,	3	8	0
2 do. do. Waistcoats,	1	10	0
2 Pair do. do. Trousers,	3	0	0
1 Fine Milled Pilot Watch Coat	2	10	0
1 do. do. Jacket,	2	2	0
1 Pair do. Trousers,	1	4	0
6 Pair Fine Russia Drill Trousers,	4	4	0
12 Pair do. do. Duck do.,	5	8	0
6 Fine White Jean Waistcoats,	2	10	0
2 Best Blue Caps, complete,	2	4	0
1 Oiled Silk Cover for do.,	0	3	6
1 Best Town-made Dirk,	2	0	0
1 Morocco Leather Belt,	0	14	0

Linen and Hosiery.

36 Cotton Day Shirts,	9	18	0
3 Coloured Flannel Shirts,	1	17	6
36 Linen Collars,	1	16	0
6 Cotton Night Shirts,	1	7	0
6 Merino Waistcoats,	2	2	0
6 Pair do. Drawers,	2	5	0
6 Pair Cotton Elastic do.,	1	19	0
36 Pair Brown Cotton Half Hose,	2	5	0
6 Pair Merino do.,	0	12	0
6 Silk Pocket Handkerchiefs,	0	19	6
24 White Cambric do.,	1	4	0
3 Black Silk Neck Ties,	0	9	0

2 Pair Braces,	£0	5	0
24 Huckaback Towels,	1	10	0
4 Table Cloths,	3	4	0

Bedding, &c.

1 Horse Hair Mattrass and Pillow,	1	15	0
3 Blankets,	1	4	0
1 Coverlet,	0	7	6
4 Pair Cotton Sheets,	2	8	0
6 Cotton Pillow Cases,	0	12	0
1 Canvas Clothes Bag,	0	6	6
2 Sets of Hammock Clews,	0	9	0

Instruments and Books.

1 Sextant,	8	0	0
1 Telescope with Strap and Signals,	2	10	0
1 Pocket Compass,	0	5	0
1 Mathematical Instruments in case,	1	8	0
1 Gunter's Improved Scale,	0	5	6
1 Parallel Ruler,	0	2	6
1 Inman's Navigation and Tables, bound with name on back,	1	6	0
2 Nautical Almanacs,	0	5	0
3 Log Books,	0	7	6
3 Watch Bill Books,	0	6	0
2 Small Account Books,	0	2	0
1 Desk or Writing Case,	2	0	0
Writing Paper, Pens, &c.,	0	14	0
1 Penknife,	0	2	0
1 Strong Rigging Knife,	0	2	6

Sundries.

1 Strong, well-seasoned Deal Chest, with Zinc Foot Bath, and Compartments, . .	£3	10	0
Washing Fittings, ...	0	13	6
1 Looking Glass, ...	0	7	6
6 *Boxes* of Blacking, . . .	0	3	0
3 Shoe Brushes, ...	0	4	6
1 Clothes Brush, ...	0	3	6
2 Hair Brushes, ...	0	6	0
3 Tooth Brushes, ...	0	2	3
2 Nail Brushes, ...	0	3	0
2 Dressing Combs, . . .	0	2	6
1 Housewife complete, . . .	0	10	6
6 lbs. of Yellow Soap, . . .	0	3	6
6 lbs. of Brown Windsor, . . .	0	6	0
1 Leather Bag, ...	0	15	0
1 Doz. Uniform Buttons, reserve, .	0	9	0
1 Foul-weather Waterproof Hat, .	0	12	0
1 do. do. Coat, .	1	16	0
1 do. do. Leggins, .	0	12	0
Boots and Shoes, about, . . .	3	10	0
Washing, and Marking, and Engraving Brass Plate on Chest, about, .	2	13	0

It should be observed that, as several of the articles in this list are similar to those supplied upon entry on board the *Britannia;* by obtaining them, in the first instance, of the best quality, they

may be quite fit for sea use, if moderate care be taken.

If the ship to which a naval cadet is appointed should be going to a very distant station, it would be prudent to supply a few yards of superfine cloth, as great difficulty may be experienced in obtaining good navy blue cloth abroad; and however complete the original outfit may have been, independent of accidents, boys of the age of a naval cadet grow so rapidly, that they should be prepared for such contingencies.

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